

Friday, January 14, 1977

No 59,907

# MPs accuse France of betraying pact on terrorism

In Commons motions Conservative and Labour MPs have accused France of betraying the European convention on the suppression of terrorism by releasing Mr Abu Daoud, the Arab terrorist leader. But the Foreign Office has declined to comment on the French action. In this details have been released of the huge French arms deal being made with the Arabs.

## Irate Bonn protest at Abu Daoud's release

Our Foreign Staff  
Conservative and Labour MPs protested yesterday against a release by the French government of Mr Abu Daoud, the Arab terrorist leader.

In separate Commons motions they said his release as a betrayal of the European convention on the suppression of terrorism agreed by the foreign ministers of the Council of Europe last year. They called on the British Government to protest to the Council of Ministers and the French government.

The Conservatives were led by Mr Hugh Fraser, MP for Oxford and Stone, and the Labour MPs by Mr Cleddy Hughes, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

One of the Labour signatories, Eric Moonman, said that a putation of Labour MPs would be seeking an interview with the French Ambassador London to tell him "frankly of the abhorrence many members of the Labour Party at the way in which France not only violated tradition, treaties but also chose to ignore its responsibilities to the wider international community in dealing with terrorism".

Mr Moonman, chairman of the Zionist Federation of Britain and Ireland, said that members of the group who signed the motion had turned over the files of "a group of agents of the Foreign Office in Britain. But he added: "Many of us feel very bitter". A Foreign Office spokesman said that Mr Abu Daoud's release was not a matter on which it would be right for Britain to comment. He was referring to the call made last Wednesday by the French Ambassador, Mr Gideon Rafael. Dr David Owen, the Minister of State, the Israelis are believed here to have wanted Britain to speak out against the French.

Among issues now in doubt are visits planned for next month by three French Cabinet ministers.

Bonn: The West German Government today condemned the release as irreconcilable with the Franco-German extradition treaty.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Justice said there was a basis for the court's ruling that he should be freed because his extradition had arrived. He should not have been released until the Bonn Government had been given the chance to lodge such a request.

Less than 24 hours after his return for Algeria, the French Government made own its willingness to release Egypt with 200 Mirage F1 aircraft as part of a long-term deal that would widen France's economic horizons in the Arab world. Most of the aircraft will be built under licence in Egypt to launch the joint Arab project for an indigenous arms

industry. Details of the deal were commented during the recent visit to Cairo by M. Yves Bourges, a Defence Minister, but the promised financing is yet to be finalised with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states.

Flight of Entebbe-type raid, page 10  
Leading article, page 17

## Rhodesian UN hearing plea

The United Nations Security Council is to ignore a request from Rhodesia to take part in the debate on alleged human rights violations by Rhodesian troops since Botswana, a spokesman for the UN said last night. Rhodesia has denied the allegations, and asserted its right under the United Nations Charter to reply to the debate, although not a member-state. Salisbury request, page 10

## Tory fillip for PR campaigners

A decision by Conservative leaders to allow a free vote on proportional representation for the proposed Scottish and Welsh assemblies is seen as a fillip for the proportional representation campaigners at Westminster.

Page 2

## Mr Jenkins's priority

Mr Jenkins, new President of the European Commission, has made tackling the EEC's main problem, the growing gap between rich and poor members, his priority, Brussels officials believe. They are hopeful he can give the commission greater authority.

Page 8

## Price watchdog plan

Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, proposes a new body with wider powers to replace the Price Commission next summer. Detailed discussions have still to be held with the TUC, Retail Consortium and the CBI.

Page 19

## Doctors' ethics plea

A working party on the ethical responsibilities of doctors in a situation leading to military action says that ethical responsibility to the community is shared by the Government. There should be acceptance by the Government of that fact, and joint announcement.

Page 4

## Britain and Europe

series of reports in *The Times* will assess the effects on British life of four years' membership in the European Community.

Monday, Roger Berthoud reports on minister and Whitehall

## Lord Avon weaker

The condition of Lord Avon deteriorated yesterday. After his doctor had visited him last night the family issued the following statement: "Lord Avon is weaker and is sleeping peacefully."

Leader, page 17

Letters: On open space in Lambeth, from Mr David Simpkins and Mr Peter Cary; on the release of Abu Daoud, from Mr Lionel Birch.

Leading articles: Mr Crosland in Europe; David, Irving Wardle in *The Archivist*; Letters to the editor, *Free Press*; concert notices by Scott Fitzgerald; Fashion by Prudence Glynn, Arts, page 13

David Robinson on new films in London; Michael Wardle in *The Archivist*; Letters to the editor, *Free Press*; concert notices by William Mann, Paul Griffiths and Keith Horner, Sport, pages 14 and 15

Rugby Union: Edwards fit, Gravell unfit for Wales; Athletics: Scholarships for Sola Lannaman and David Moorecroft; Tennis

Business News, pages 19-25

Stock markets: The special deposits move helped shares and the FT Index closed 5.7 up to 363.3. Gils also had a good day

Financial Editor: Gilt sales squeeze the money system; English China Clays, main

market, and Shell sell a new problem

Business features: Kenneth Owen on the moves towards a computer policy for Europe

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## HOME NEWS

## Tories given free vote over PR for proposed assemblies

By David Leigh

Political Staff

The Conservatives are to allow a free vote on proportional representation for the proposed Scottish and Welsh assemblies.

Although Mrs Thatcher has not decided about its wisdom for Scotland, the Welsh and members of her Shadow Cabinet colleagues are agreeing it, the decision is a fillip for the proportional representation campaigners at Westminster.

The Conservative leaders are considering support for PR in the proposed direct elections to the European Assembly.

Mrs Thatcher said this week on a radio programme, that she did not think PR was particularly democratic in its outcome. It led in countries such as Holland to a plethora of little parties.

But it is significant that Scottish National Party members have been much cooler towards PR since they realized that the party had become big enough to do potentially remarkably well out of a "first-past-the-post" system.

The crucial and gruelling committee stage of the Government's devolution Bill opened yesterday, with business managers divided over tactics. Hundreds of wrecking amendments are still going to be tabled.

Some ministers want to grasp the nettle of a guillotine motion straightforwardly. Mr Prentice, who resigned from the Government, was not alone in thinking that the delays in offering a referendum to buy off Labour rebels were unshakable.

The government did succeed in getting a comfortable majority for second reading, but it now faces an attempt to exclude Wales from the Bill. That is expected by both sides to be voted on Jan 25 and 26 in committee. Welsh Labour rebels' opposition is blunted by the referendum offer.

But there is no predictable prospect of getting the whole

Bill through committee at present: and it needs to do so in time in order to face the House of Lords.

If a guillotine is not going to be tabled early in the proceedings, business managers say, offers will be made to the Opposition on an agreed, voluntary timetable. They are bound to fail. Although the Conservative Front Bench has promised to take a relatively constructive attitude to the Bill, the same does not apply to a large number of backbench buccaneers.

It will be equally difficult to get agreement on a timetable for the minor parties, and they say. As a result, most Fleet Street papers are running at a loss.

The Government will then start a "softening-up" operation, by scheduling some all-night sittings. The first day of committee was yesterday. It carries on for two days next week, on Tuesday and Wednesday, and has 30 days set aside to consider.

That is hard on its own party as well, but it will become clear, after three or four weeks, that absolutely no progress is being made on the Bill, despite the suffering of all.

It is easy to interrupt publication, by delaying tactics such as holding chapel (office branch) meetings during production time, or "withdrawing cooperation", or by direct acts of sabotage, such as breaking the paper as it passes through the presses at high speed, he says. As working delays are legitimate and such acts can never be proved, those methods involve no risk to those using them.

Such an episode makes it

## Fleet Street is quietly suffocating from overmanning and unnecessarily high rates of pay for workers'

## Mr Astor condemns 'featherbedding' tactics in national newspapers

By Diana Geddes

Home Affairs Reporter

The British press is in danger of losing its freedom through sabotage threats and featherbedding by the printing unions coupled with the self-interested attitude of journalists and the silent complicity of newspaper management, Mr David Astor, former editor and owner of *The Observer*, says in an article published today in the magazine *Index on Censorship*.

The printing unions have increased the economic burdens on national newspapers by insisting on unnecessarily high manning levels and rates of pay, he says. As a result, most Fleet Street papers are running at a loss.

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easy to understand why Fleet Street was silent on those methods which made it unions possible to get details printed.

Mr Astor mentions as an example "an unproven but reasonably frank account" of the newspaper industry prepared for *The Observer*. Because of this, he says, disputes occurred throughout the evening of that issue's production. Demands were made that every phrase that was remotely factually questionable should be changed, with threats of stopping production if they were not.

An article "of diminished intelligibility" finally appeared. One of the reporters who had written it, was, jokingly, seized in the carabiner by the neck and called a friend in the workshop.

Publication of events that "moderate" and modified article led to a meeting between management and a senior union national official, at which management was subjected to "denunciation, threat and abuse", Mr Astor says. As no further punishment was pronounced by the union, beyond threats of retribution if the offence was repeated, that "astounding meeting" had been regarded as a success by the management.

It would consider it folly to do so; and the sad fact is that they may be right. A newspaper might easily commit

suicide by challenging the censorship of the print unions", he writes.

The overt attitude of journalists to the practice of use of the newspaper industry is one of approval. But that is seldom if ever publicly expressed. "Indeed, many journalists show a sneaking regard for the supposedly heroic toughness of the print unions, together with a loud disdain for their own management."

The National Union of Journalists' emulation of the printing unions through the proposed institution of a "closed shop" poses another direct threat to their censorship.

Mr Astor says: "Many journalists discount that danger by saying that a closed shop already exists in effect in newspapers such as the *Daily Express*, *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*, without doing those papers any harm. Others argue that staffs on such papers as *The Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Observer* would never try to operate a strict closed shop."

But he concludes: "all these larger factors which look like reducing Fleet Street to perhaps three or four omnibus papers, produced by featherbedded printers and written by members of a self-perpetuating guild".

One way to improve this unhealthy situation would be

for newspapers to attempt to give more information on union limitations on news. Mr Astor says: "The price for he suggests, might be to negotiate with the print unions a special right of ever an independent trib including a union representative, agrees that they have case for one."

But that privilege would be justified because the unions' special dependence on printing would make only if accompanied by genuine commitment never censor copy. Even a general interpretation of that privilege might be worth while, if present darkness around affairs of the media could dissipate, he suggests.

Some of the present practices are so outrageous exposure to the light would reveal them as p

The magazine *Index Censorship* is published by Writers and Scholars International, a non-profit limited company. Mr. Louis Blom-Cooper, Mr. Ed Grankshaw, Mr. Stuart H. Sturte, Mr. Dan Jacobson and Stephen Spender.

## Date fixed for ballot by miners

The result of the miners' ballot on the plan to reduce their earning age eventually to 60 will be known within three weeks.

The executive of the National Union of Miners workers in London yesterday set Wednesday and Thursday, January 26 and 27, for voting at pits and branches. Counting will be carried out by the Electoral Reform Society and the result is expected early next week.

Britain's 260,000 miners will be given details of the plan approved on Wednesday by the executive by 14 votes to 11 and they will be asked whether they back the plan.

Last month 78 per cent of miners voting in a ballot rejected the National Coal Board's previous offer on retirement and authorized the executive to order industrial action if necessary.

Earlier, retirement, dependent on talks between the TUC and the Government on the next phase of pay policy, is expected to start in August, when the qualifying age will be reduced to 62 for workers with 20 years' underground service.

A special conference of the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfitters at Blackpool yesterday decided to ballot its 20,000 members on whether to take industrial action in support of a claim for retirement at 60 on full pay after 20 years' underground service.

The letter was signed by the group's chairman, Professor Glyn Davies, Professor of Banking at the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, and by its vice-chairmen, Sir Alun Talfan Davies, QC, and Mr Jack Brooks, leader of South Glamorgan County Council; by the secretary, Mr George Wright, who is secretary of the Wales TUC, and the treasurer, Mr Gwyn Morgan, the EEC representative.

Mr Gwyn Morgan told a conference in Cardiff yesterday: "Our action group is not a bandwagon. Many of us have argued the case for an assembly for more than ten years. Those MP's who are thinking of cheating the public by trying to get Wales out of the Bill will be descending to the lowest form of deceit."

The group, which was formed a week ago, raised £2,000 to pay for full-page advertisements in yesterday's issues of the *Western Mail* and *Liverpool Daily Post*, signed by more than 750 people. The advertisements said there was an unanswerable case for an extension of democracy and responsibility to the people of Wales within Britain.

Although the referendum and the Conservative threat are the immediate spur to action, the group, which is non-party, feels that since the publication of the devolution Bill in November the anti-devolutionists have had greater publicity.

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It said the need for it

and the expectation of it that had grown in the past few years, had reached a point where frustration of that aspiration would threaten social harmony.

From Trevor Fishlock

Cardiff

Some in Wales and relationships in Britain as a whole.

Because there was a public demand for an assembly, and Welsh economic and social needs could not be met by the present system of administration or by parliamentary reform, the status quo was not an option, the advertisement said.

Every MP received a copy of the advertisement yesterday with a letter from the group saying there would be "mendacious disaffection and resentment" if an attempt was made to deprive Wales of a referendum.

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# Citroën announce a powerful new CX engine and a wider CX range.



Across Europe, the Citroën CX has driven smoothly into a commanding position in the executive car market.

Now Citroën announce increased power for the CX, and a wider model choice.

#### New power and flexibility.

The new CX2400 models have a more powerful engine with improved torque for more lively acceleration.

Low-speed flexibility is improved, with less gear changing.

#### Power steering standard.

All CX models now have unique VariPower steering.

With VariPower, you can park with just one

finger on the wheel. Yet as speed goes up, the power varies to increase road 'feel'.

#### Eight CX models.

There are now eight CX models.

The CX2000 Confort (available with or without VariPower) and Safari estate and the new CX2400 Super and Pallas saloons and Safari estate.

The magnificent new CX Prestige, with the new engine, longer wheelbase and sumptuous interior appointments.

The new CX Diesel saloon and estate which combine, for the first time, diesel economy and longevity with real comfort and elegance. These are quiet, smoke free diesels, with the refinement and smoothness of a petrol car.

**C-matic** torque converter transmission is optional on the CX2400 Super and Pallas saloons.

C-matic eliminates the clutch pedal and makes driving exceptionally smooth and relaxed, even in town.

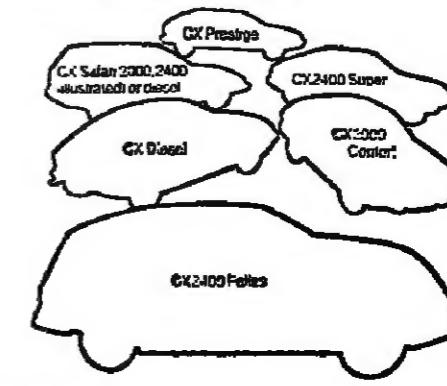
#### Electric windows.

Front electric windows are standard on all CX2400 models and CX Diesels. The CX Prestige has electric windows front and rear.

Every CX is beautiful, safe and economical—with safety construction, futuristic controls and the supreme comfort of Citroën hydropneumatic self-levelling suspension.

#### Test drive a new CX.

Your Citroën dealer will be pleased to make the introduction. Or write for colour brochure and dealer list to Citroën Cars Ltd., Dept. G81, Mill Street, Slough SL2 5DE.



## HOME NEWS

## Government shares the medical profession's responsibility to the community, doctors emphasize

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent

Although doctors must always consider first their obligations to patients wider considerations have arisen from the establishment of the National Health Service.

Making that point, the joint working party that has been considering the ethical responsibilities of doctors in a situation leading them to take industrial action concludes that the profession's ethical responsibility to the community is part of a responsibility shared by the Government. If there was acceptance by the Government of that principle and a joint announcement to that effect it would be of advantage to all.

In a report published today it says that both parties should admit that the present machinery of consultation does not effectively minimize the possibility of confrontation between government and the profession, or effectively and speedily resolve confrontation when it occurs.

More effective conciliation machinery must be introduced, and urgent discussions are necessary to decide how best to do it.

Sir Rodney Smith, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, chairman of the joint working party, told, at a press conference that it was hoped that there would be an immediate response to the request for discussions. The report was an attempt by doctors to act constructively on behalf of the community.

The age-old ethic was that, no matter what the circum-

stances, a doctor could not withdraw his services from a patient. In recent years there had been disputes about pay and conditions, but more important was what was to happen when a government required doctors to act in a certain way and accept a situation that they thought harmful to their patients? Should doctors do nothing?

The working party was formed because of deep feelings within the conference of medical and lay leaders and the British Medical Association that the creation of the National Health Service had introduced a new dimension into doctors' ethical responsibilities, which had never been properly examined.

The report, which has political overtones, says it is not an attempt to dictate to others, but a basis for thought and discussion.

It makes strongly the point that, if the state has undertaken to provide health care for the community, it also has obligations to the profession and the community. The state is responsible for defining the limits of health care to be provided by the NHS, and for making available the necessary resources.

As a near-monopoly employer the state has a special obligation to ensure that professional ethics are not brought into conflict with doctors' contractual obligations.

The imposition on doctors of legal obligations incompatible with ethics would compel them to leave the service and practise independently.

The working party discussed

## Advance air tickets at half fare

By Arthur Reed  
Advance purchase excursion (Apex) fares at about half the normal fares in many cases are to be introduced on scheduled air services between London and a number of places in Europe this summer.

Apex fares have been in force on the North Atlantic routes for the past two years and have been a great success. To book for the European version passengers will have to commit themselves a month before travel and stay at their destinations not less than two weeks (one week in the case of Greece) and not more than three months.

British Airways and the national airlines of Greece, Italy and Turkey hope to obtain full agreement to the new tariff at a meeting of the International Air Transport Association in Geneva next week.

Under the Apex plan, the normal return fare to Milan will be reduced from £107 to £67.50, to Tunes from £107 to £67.50, to Venice from £122.50 to £72.50, to Pisa from £118 to £72.50, to Rome from £140 to £77.50, to Naples from £150.50 to £92.50, to Corfu from £152 to £83, to Salouka from £160 to £85, to Athens from £170 to £85, and to Istanbul from £170 to £85.

## Court of Appeal frees jail roof protester

Terence Pollard, aged 21, who spent three days last summer sitting on the roof of Walton jail, Liverpool, protesting his innocence, was freed by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Mr Pollard, of Prescott Road, Liverpool, was jailed for 18 months at Liverpool Crown Court on November 13, 1975, on a charge of causing bodily harm in a kitchen. Convicted aged 15, the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction.

After hearing submissions on the way the trial judge had directed the jury as to how they should treat identification evidence, Lord Justice Waller, sitting with Lord Justice Stephenson and Mr Justice Slynn, said there was a lurking doubt about the case.

## Lassa fever suspect

A girl, aged 19, who arrived at Gatwick airport from Nigeria with feverish symptoms, is in Cottenham Wood isolation hospital, north London, with suspected Lassa fever, the Department of Health said last night.

## Traders reject accusations of unfair profits during vegetable shortage

Although vegetable prices have fallen slightly in the past week they remain high. Mr Derek Thorpe, chairman of the Covent Garden Tenants' Association, told reporters yesterday: "If this weather continues there may be a sticky couple of months ahead of us."

Home crops were hard to lift and the keeping quality of some vegetables was poor, making them very expensive. "Price levels of vegetables on the Continent are in excess of our own", Mr Thorpe said.

Wholesalers compared British market prices of £2.20 to 54 for a 25lb bag of sprouts yesterday with £5.90 in Holland. They also reported that the cauliflower crops in Jersey and Guernsey had been reduced to two-thirds by last year's drought and autumn rains.

Traders rejected accusations that they were making unfair profits out of shortages. Mr Denis Mead, chief executive of the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Trades, said that when prices rose

## BMA suggests 'hotel' charges in hospitals

By Our Health Services Correspondent

A central fund for the National Health Service into which money from new sources, such as hotel charges for hospital patients and an increase in prescription charges, could be paid, has been proposed by the British Medical Association.

In a final draft of evidence it will present to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service, which will be published this month before going for approval to a special representative meeting of the profession in March, the council of the association concludes that the service needs an extra £2,000m.

But because there is no hope of the Exchequer's providing such a sum, the royal commission should consider other ways of raising more money for the Nhs, the council thinks.

The evidence reflects alarm about medical manpower. Recently the suggestion has been made that the expansion of medical schools might lead in a few years to too many doctors. The council suggests that the royal commission should produce an interim report on manpower.

No figure is suggested as the amount the charges might raise. It was estimated some time ago that charging a patient £2 a night would bring in about £200m.

The council rules out a surcharge fee for patients, largely because it is felt that

## Campaign urged to restore country scenes

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

A national campaign to plant trees and hedgerows to replace those which are being lost is called for in a Countryside Commission report published yesterday.

It says the appearance of the farmed countryside in lowland England and Wales is changing dramatically and rich and varied scenes established over many centuries are being lost.

New farming techniques have been encouraged by the Government by a series of measures designed to keep down food costs. The farmers are proud of their achievements, but have given much less consideration to the effect on the landscape.

Attempts should now be made to stop unnecessary clearance of features of landscape value, to ensure that those who need advice and financial help can get it and to ensure that public authorities set a good example on publicly owned land.

## Food prices

Hugh Clayton

the proportion of profit taken by traders was reduced.

Mr Robert Jackson, a Sheffield trader and member of that town's committee of the National Federation of Traders, said:

"Nobody is hoarding potatoes. We always have an increase in demand in cold, snowy weather."

Although consumption has risen temporarily, the tendency has been for it to fall after high prices during the past two seasons. Consumption had dropped from an annual average of 220lb a head two years ago to 150lb last year and between 150lb and 160lb now.

The drop would help to soften the blow of any imminent shortage. "Last year's high of 220lb in

## Sharp fall in candidates for Anglican ministry

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

A sharp fall in the number of ordinands (candidates for the ministry) accepted for training by the Church of England last year is disclosed by the Advisory Council for the Church's Ministry today.

Candidates accepted for the full-time (stipendiary) ministry went down from 348 in 1975 to 254 in 1976.

The fall has caused much disquiet in the church. The 1975 figure had been a slight improvement on the 1974 total of 340, which had been greeted with some excitement as the reversal of a long-term downward trend. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, had referred to the reversal, in his enthronement address in Canterbury Cathedral, at the beginning of 1975, as a sign that the church could recover some of its lost ground. The 1976 figure is in fact below the 1973 total.

The number of candidates registering for conferences, 676, was higher than in 1975, although the proportion accepted was smaller.

Last year also brought an increase in the number of full-time lay workers accepted for training.

The 1976 total, 55, was 12 more than the previous year, and double the figure for 1973. The number of candidates for the ministry of deaconess, 20 in 1976, was three times the 1973 total.

A 'Times' guide to careers in education

The Times Educational Supplement Guide to Careers in Education 1977-78 has been published. It is a comprehensive source of information on careers in teaching professions, its purpose is to provide guidance for people considering a career in education, and for anyone wishing to change direction within the profession.

"We found that the activities usually lumped together as 'education' were too diverse to lend themselves to general views and simplifications", Mr. Howarth, the book's general editor, says.

The Guide covers all levels of education and the teaching of handicapped children, delinquents and prisoners. It deals with education authority administration, industrial training, adult education, broadcasting and social work. It is published at £2.95 by Thomas Nelson and Sons.

Poor service at garages alleged

Garage servicing is generally incompetent, often wasteful and in some cases dishonest, according to a survey in Which?, the consumer magazine. It says that despite a new code of practice standards have not improved in the past six years.

Sample cars were sent by



Workmen, in protective clothing against asbestos, dismantling a power plant at Battersea A station in London, which for many years had the largest generator in Europe.

## PLP paves way to more open government

Our Political Correspondent

The Parliamentary Labour made a demand last night that could pave the way towards more open government.

It approved a report proposing that the Government should arrange for departmental ministers three times a year to supply party subject groups with a memorandum "outlining the major policy activities on which their departments will be concentrating over the next three months".

The report came from a party committee that has investigated the views of backbenchers on the likely effects of the increased handling fees for the summer exhibition.

Non-members will pay £5.50 instead of £4, and members £11 instead of £10.

Sir Hugh Casson, the president, said some of the steps being taken were heavily regretted by most members: they included fees for students (£7.50 a year for postgraduates and £6.50 for first-degree courses), and the charging of a commission on summer exhibitions.

"In the case of legislation,

which almost always involves clear party commitments and has a relatively long period of gestation, we believe there should be an absolute obligation on ministers to consult the relevant subject group as early as possible... early enough for its views to be taken into account", the report states.

The committee, chaired by Mr Sydney Irving, MP for Dartford, recognized that there are practical limitations, for example, in foreign affairs, where the speed of events might make it difficult for ministers to consult the subject group concerned.

Because group meetings are often held at the committee's suggestion, the committee proposed that they should be reduced from 25 to 16, basing the new groups on the joint responsibilities of various ministries. Separate groups were proposed for Europe and parliamentary affairs.

Last night backbenchers approved the general plan, but they voted to change the pattern of groups so that the health group will continue separately and not be joined with social security and disablement.

## Academy is to charge sales commission

By Kenneth Gosling  
Academic Reporter

Moves to improve its financial situation were announced by the Royal Academy yesterday.

For the first time it is to charge a commission on sales at the summer exhibition, and students at its schools, the oldest art schools in Britain, will have to pay fees from next September.

The academy also announced increased handling fees for the summer exhibition. Non-members will pay £5.50 instead of £4, and members £11 instead of £10.

The academy also announced a commission on sales at the summer exhibition, which takes place this year from May 21 to August 14.

This year will see an ambitious programme at the academy. One of the most unusual exhibitions (March 14 to April 11) will demonstrate the use of the laser beam as a technique for forming images in the air. Demonstrations will take place in the courtyard at Burlington House at night.

Great and royal Victorian paintings will be shown from March 19 to July 10 under the title "This Brilliant Year", a phrase taken from Queen Victoria's diary for the golden jubilee year of 1887: "Never, never can I forget this brilliant year."

The art schools cost £50,000 a year and the new fees, which will be met by the Department of Education and Science and by local authorities, will bring in £14,000 in the first year, £28,000 in the second, and £42,000 in the third.

Another element in the academy's fund-raising plan, the "Friends" scheme, has got off to a good start, with nearly 1,300 people joining in the summer in Battersea Park.

## Protest by parents over school closures

By Tim Devlin  
Education Correspondent  
Buckinghamshire Education Committee yesterday decided to close five nursery schools and its school library service but not to go ahead with controversial plan to cut school meal service, because it would be against the law.

Instead the committee decided to ask the Association of County Councils to apply to the Government to set principles governing the revision of school meals, considered so that the authority could spend more money on teachers and other priorities.

About two hundred parents and children gathered on the county hall to protest against the recommendation to close the nursery school High Wycombe, Amersham and Bletchley, committee decided to negotiate with private groups to run schools.

Mr Keith Smith, Headmaster of Aylesbury Grammar School, warned the committee that the plan to make redundant ancillary staff would mean some schools would no longer be able to offer science courses. It was decided reluctantly to cut the school library service.

The committee decided to provide fruit and milk instead of puddings for two weeks.

The academy also announced the institution of two prizes of £1,000 each, to be awarded to the summer exhibition exhibitors.

Universities are expecting to lose at least a tenth of their 51,000 postgraduates next year, because of the Government's proposals to increase tuition fees.

In answer to a survey by the University Grants Committee on the likely effects of the increased fees, universities have said that the students they are most concerned about are postgraduates, in particular, British postgraduates. That group has the steepest increases: from £182 a year to £250.

Some universities estimate that their British postgraduate numbers will fall by as much as 30 per cent. There are 33,000 such students, a third of whom are privately educated.

Lancaster University is expecting a drop in its number of British postgraduates of anything up to a third, which would reduce its total postgraduate intake from 600 to 530. At Reading, self-financed British students, of which there are about eighty, are expected to fall by half. It has been estimated that a further tenth might withdraw after embarking on a course through lack of funds.

All universities expect to be able to make up the shortfall in postgraduates by increasing their undergraduate intake.

## Alleged assault on teacher

David John Pearce, aged 16, unemployed, of Birkbeck Road, Martin John Garbold, aged 16, unemployed, of Oak Avenue and a boy of 15, all of Totham, London, were remanded in custody until next Thursday.

Tottenham magistrate yesterday said that the students had been remanded in custody until next Thursday.

Great and royal Victorian paintings will be shown from March 19 to July 10 under the title "This Brilliant Year", a phrase taken from Queen Victoria's diary for the golden jubilee year of 1887: "Never, never can I forget this brilliant year."

The latest restrictions, which were announced by the Department of Education and Science, arise from measures taken by Mr Healey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and from last autumn's rate-support grant settlement.

The economic decline in social deprivation in inner cities has become one of Government's main preoccupations. Mr Freeson, Minister of Housing and Construction, has said that the issues go beyond merely adjusting rate-support grant. His department could not cope alone.

Mr Freeson was speaking at a news conference to mark publication of reports of the studies of inner Liverpool, Sefton, Birmingham, and parts of London, where population pressures are still so strong that their dispersal is needed. The Conservative argument is that London is still overcrowded and put pressure on the Stockwell area of London.

It says there are parts of London where population pressures are still so strong that their dispersal is needed. The objective should be to help low-income families to move to more affordable areas.

There



PARLIAMENT, January 12 and 13, 1977

## 'Times' dispute leads to angry clash between party leaders

House of Commons

Mr Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, said whether it would be wise for the Secretary of State for Employment to make a statement on the industrial dispute at *The Times*.

A request for an emergency debate on the dispute was rejected. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Conservative, C), during questions to the Prime Minister, said *The Times* was not published this morning because of the action of a number of printers who refused to print because they disagreed with the content of a report (Conservative cheers).

Will Mr Callaghan condemn that industrial action wholeheartedly (she asked) because it constitutes censorship of the press? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—I do not set myself up as a pundit on these matters but I think the freedom of the press depends upon accurate reporting and printing. (Conservative cheers.)

Although *The Times* has not appeared as far as I know nobody has tried to stop it from appearing. If it is true nobody knows what they are I do not intend to judge it.

What I have noticed is that *The Guard* and *The Times* have printed the story and the committee seemed to have done it in a way that has met with general satisfaction.

Mrs Thatcher—I think that up to now a Prime Minister upheld the censorship of the press, which is what he has done. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—As regards *The Times*, the freedom of the press is in question and so the freedom of the press. Some of us have suffered at the hands of the press know what that means. (Conservative protests.)

Freedom of the press apparently means on occasions, as I have had occasion to know, in the too dictatorial freedom of the press, and in the too inaccurate, false, infamies of the press which the press know what that means. (Conservative protests.)

Freedom of the press apparently means on occasions, as I have had occasion to know, in the too dictatorial freedom of the press, and in the too inaccurate, false, infamies of the press which the press know what that means. (Conservative protests.)

Before we get too deeply into this we must find out what the facts are in this particular matter. As far as I am concerned there is as far as I am concerned and the Opposition—if they can get outside their party have known that there will be no censorship and nobody would defend censorship. But if they really believe it, I leave it to the country to judge, and my opposition will stand up against theirs.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South-West Staffordshire, C)—Mr Callaghan should go to the City at the earliest opportunity and go into the offices of *The Times* and give a more unequivocal statement in support of a free press than he has given in this House this afternoon. He should realize that a free press implies freedom to print inaccuracies and freedom for people to reply to them.

## PM expects interest rates to fall in 1977

House of Commons

Mr Callaghan

—What I do realize is

that the

Opposition

is trying to

pursue

party

points

this afternoon.

Mr Bryan Gould (Southampton, East, Lab) asked whether interest rates would be allowed to fall substantially?

Mr Callaghan

—It depends on a

number

of

matters,

including

the

state

of

the

economy.

Mr Peter Blaikie (Blackpool, South, C) had asked: Since the TUC and the Parliamentary Labour Party recently extenuated pillars of the existing relationship between Mr Schiepman and Mr Ponsonby would it not be useful for them to get a different point of view by entailing Mr Blaikie?

Mr Callaghan

—No.

(Conservative

protests

and

shouts

of "Why

not")

Mrs Margaret Thatcher

Leader

of

the

Opposition

(Conservative

cheers)

—No.



## HOME NEWS

## 15 stand for election as secretary of TGWU

By Paul Routledge  
Labour Editor

Fifteen candidates have entered the election contest for the 57,000 general secretaryship of the Transport and General Workers' Union, Britain's largest, the leadership of which carries considerable political importance.

All the contestants are men. They include five full-time national officials, the son of a previous general secretary and a variety of rank-and-file members, among them a Trotskyist car worker. Voting will begin on Wednesday and the result will be announced a week later.

The clear favourite at the outset of the campaign is Mr Moss Evans, aged 51, the union's national organiser. But he faces competition from Mr Alex Kirton, the executive officer, who sits on the Labour Party national executive; Mr John Miller, national secretary of the chemical and oil refining trade group; Mr Larry Smith, national secretary for passenger services; and Mr Bill Walsh, the union's white-collar section leader.

Mr John Cousins, a former national secretary for local government manual workers, who now works for the National Economic Development Office, is among the rank-and-file contenders. His father, Frank, was general secretary before Mr Jack Jones. Mr Alan Thornton, known as the "Mole", for his strongly political style of union activity at British Leyland's Orford plant, is another candidate.

The remaining eight are Mr William Bennett, a shop steward at Dunlop's Glasgow factory; Mr William Dyer, a Deli bus driver; Mr Thomas Flaherty, a white-collar worker at Lyon's Maid, Greenford; Mr Robert Fulton, a supervisor on the Glasgow Underground; Mr G. R. Lyon, who works in an engineering factory at Luton; Mr H. Moorhouse, a clerical worker from Barnsley; Mr Thomas Niven, a lorry driver from Bolton; and Mr D. Thatcher, a Brighton bus driver.

The winning candidate will take over at a critical juncture in union affairs. He will run in tandem with Mr Jones for a year until the latter retires on March 29, 1978.

In the last election, in 1968, Mr Jones took 53 per cent of the votes in a 57.3 per cent poll of the union's members, which then numbered 1,400,000. Mr Evans is confidently tipped to win this time but not by as large a majority.

Mr Jones said yesterday that when he retired he would continue to fight for a better deal for old age pensioners. He would not "throw in the towel". He said firmly he would not accept a peacock.

Voting will take place chiefly at the workplace, by secret ballot, with lay members of the union scrutinising the procedure to minimise any abuse.

No-nonsense organizer, page 16

## Industrial democracy 4: Basis for ordering things better in France

## President Giscard wants more say for workers

By Charles Hargrove

It is almost two years since the publication of the Sudreau report on the reform of industry which was bold and controversial attempt to review industrial relations and put forward proposals to harmonise their working. Some of its less controversial recommendations, such as the reinforcement of safety measures and the reform of some aspects of management, have become law. But the most controversial one, designed to give the worker a greater say in management, has yet to come.

One can take the cynical view that the Government, faced with many more urgent tasks, such as the battle against inflation, has been in no hurry to press forward a measure that was widely regarded as untimely two years ago when economic difficulties seemed less pressing than now.

The scheme provoked the hostility of employers and of the majority of organized labour. In fact, President Giscard and his Government are much attached to the idea which they believe will take some of the bitterness out of labour confrontation, although they are not so sanguine as to imagine that it will produce industrial harmony and peace. But they feel that it corre-

sponds to the prevailing mood in France and elsewhere for greater responsibility and participation at all levels.

Early this year, probably a Bill will be tabled in Parliament modifying company law to provide for the representation of workers on the supervisory boards of companies employing more than two thousand people.

The key word in the French concept of participation is "surveillance". It is a bold attempt to find a middle way between the dilution of the management's ultimate responsibility and the transfer of any part of it to the workers, which French unions, with their ideological attachment to the principle of confrontation, regard as a surrender to capitalism.

Workers, in the union view, must not become accomplices of the capitalist master. But they insist on the right to greater information about the economic and labour situation in businesses. They also want to be able to contest managerial decisions more effectively than through works councils which are compulsory by law in all businesses employing more than 50 persons.

One of the ways in which that will be made possible is through a regular labour balance-sheet giving complete information on the labour position in businesses employing more than 300 people. Another is the creation within the works council of an economic committee with power to meet with the managing board or with the shareholders and economic problem facing the company. This proposal will be submitted to Parliament in the coming spring session either as a separate Bill or as part of an overall Bill incorporating several of the recommendations of the Sudreau report.

The Government believes in reform of industry by persuasion rather than by decree. That is why the Bill will merely suggest that co-supervision be introduced on a voluntary basis for the time being by companies employing more than 2,000 people, which are organized under collegiate management with a supervisory board, not those with a president, director-general and managing board.

The management's power of decision would remain intact. Workers' representatives would hold a third of the seats on supervisory boards, and would have to include at least one representative of junior management. The method of selection of workers' represen-

tatives would be left to the shareholders' meeting in each firm.

At present workers have between two and four representatives on the supervisory boards and their voice is only consultative.

Selection of workers' representatives involves the highly explosive issue of the trade union monopoly of representation on works councils which has been existing since 1945.

If the Government sought to tamper with it by extending eligibility to non-union members, as the Gaullist party demands, a storm would break about its ears. Freedom for each individual business to decide on the means of selection of workers' representatives is thus the only way the reform can be pushed through.

The idea of collegiate management is alien to the French industrial mind. But the company law is to be reformed to make supervisory boards more attractive and more workable.

Only a few hundred companies have supervisory boards at present. None of them is large except Peugeot. The Government's aim is to bring larger French companies more in line with the European pattern under discussion in the Community. Concluded

## WEST EUROPE

## Hope for Jenkins lead on closing the EEC's rich-poor gap

From David Cross  
Brussels, Jan 13

After the undisputed foreign success of his predecessor, the new European Commission under Mr Roy Jenkins appears set to tackle the main internal problem confronting the Community: the growing divergence in the performance of the economies of the Nine.

This is the interpretation many officials in Brussels are putting on Mr Jenkins's first actions since he took up his appointment last week. Although it is generally accepted that this awesome task has defeated the Community in the past, his performance is already arousing modest hopes of fresh invention.

In a commentary on Mr Jenkins's maiden speech to the European Parliament this week, Signor Emilio Gazzo, editor of *Agence Europe*, the influential daily news letter on the Communists' activities, applauds the new President's clear desire to give the Commission, and by extension the EEC, greater political authority.

Particularly significant in this context, he feels, are the appointment of Mr Henk Vredeling, the veteran Dutch Socialist, as the first European Commissioner responsible for employment policy; the new coordinating role granted to another gifted Socialist, Signor Antonio Gorioli, over the deployment of the Community's various aid operations like the regional and social funds, and the responsibility for improving the working world union.

Signor Gazzo writes: "The Commission's aim is to bring the management of the European pattern under discussion in the Community. Concluded

## Shipowner third kidnap victim in two days

From Patricia Clough  
Rome, Jan 13

Signor Piero Costa, a member of Italy's biggest shipowning family, is the latest victim of the country's 18th a year kidnapping industry. A huge sum is expected to be asked for his release.

Signor Costa, who runs the shipping side of the family's shipping line, was snatched by about six bandits who got out of a public lift to his hillside home in a suburb last night. He bled to death, kicking and shouting into a car. So far no car has been made with the犯人.

One theory is that it is a political kidnapping. The Brigades' extreme left terrorist group have in the organized kidnapping a murder in Genoa for their political ends. The principal theory is that it is a political kidnapping.

Signor Costa was the kidnap victim in Italy in days. The others were a industrialist and the daugher of a wealthy Padua businessman.

President Leone will tomorrow preside over a meeting between Signor Andreotti, the Interior Minister, and the Minister of the Interior, Defence, and Treasury on the problem. It will be the time the President has arranged a meeting and his press conference underlines the extreme gravity of the situation.

The ministers are expected to discuss not only kidnapping but the soaring crime rate in general, the inability of police to catch more than a quarter of offenders, the frequent escapes from prison and the near-paralysis in the justice system.

## North Rhine ban on atom plant

Düsseldorf, Jan 13—Germany's most industrialized land announced today that it will not allow any more atomic power plants until the problem of what to do with atomic waste has been settled.

Herr Heinrich Kühn, P. Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, said that his Cabinet decision could mean that more nuclear stations would be built there for the next years. Four of the 13 atomic power plants already in operation in West Germany are in North Rhine-Westphalia, most densely populated of Germany's 10 states.

The federal Government submitted last year that it had been forced to cut back ambitious plans for the development of its nuclear energy programme, largely because of public protests about waste disposal.

Government experts have said that a central underground dump will have to be built within the next six months to handle increasing waste products. Three sites in the relatively thinly populated Lower Saxony are under consideration, but citizens' action groups in each area are contesting the plan.

Herr Kühn said there was a question of halting atom plants already generating power in North Rhine-Westphalia.

## Milan train is hijacked by commuters

From Our Correspondent  
Rome, Jan 13

A crowd of commuters, tired of the chronic unpunctuality of the railways, this week hijacked a train at Treviglio, outside Milan, in order to get to work on time, the Turin newspaper *La Stampa* said.

On Monday the community waited grumbly in the station for the train to Greco-Pirelli, which was even later than usual.

When a train finally arrived bound for Milan Central Station, the commuters piled aboard.

On the way they decided to force the driver to take the train to Greco-Pirelli. The driver explained that the points he set for Milan Central Station were set for Greco-Pirelli. The train was stopped at the next station, the static master was prevailed upon to change the points, and pirate commuters reached Greco-Pirelli.

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On the other hand, in December, ruling on the constitutionality of direct elections to the European Parliament, a court gave a very comprehensive and precise definition of national sovereignty, which is likely to inhibit any French Government in agreeing to a extension of the powers of European institutions.

## Window of the World for Supply and Demand: German Trade Fairs and Exhibitions

## German Trade Fairs and

## Exhibitions 1977

January  
12-16. Int. Fair Home Textiles, Floor Coverings, Household Textiles, Frankfurt

15-22. German Furniture Fair, Cologne

22-28. Int. Book Show, Düsseldorf

29. 1-8. 2. DEUBAU - Building Exhibition, Essen

31. 1-4. 2. ISM - Int. Sweets and Biscuit Fair, Cologne

February

5-11. Int. Toy Fair, Nuremberg

5-12. EEC Engineering in Environment Protection, Frankfurt

10-12. DOMOTECNICA - Int. Fair Household Appliances, Fittings, Components, Cologne

13-15. Int. Hardware Fair, Cologne

24-27. ISPO - Int. Sports Equipment Fair, Munich

25. 1-2. 3. Int. Leathergoods Fair, Offenbach

27. 2-3. 3. Frankfurt International Fair, Frankfurt

March

4-9. Internorga - Int. Fair for the Hotel, Catering, Bakery Trade, Hanover

7-11. didecta - European Educational Fair, Hanover

10-16. BAUMA - Int. Construction Machinery Fair, Munich

11-13. Int. FAIR FOR THE CHILD, Cologne

12-16. EEDCO - Int. Fair, Düsseldorf

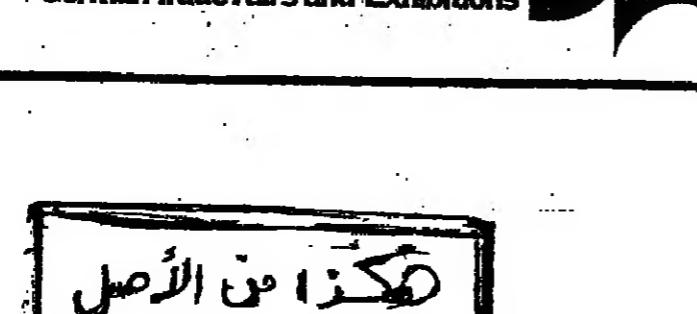
12-16. Int. Fair Sanitation - Heating - Air Conditioning, Frankfurt

Information:

German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in the United Kingdom

11, Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EE

AJMA, Lindenstrasse 8, D-5000 Köln 1



**Liberals' choice**  
Mr. Hampton Flint, aged 50, a marine engineer, will be the Liberal candidate at the north-east by-election at Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, caused by the departure of Mr. David Marquand, Labour, who was unconstitutionally elected.

The Bill had provoked much controversy in the National Assembly and the Senate on the ground that a motor vehicle could be considered as an extension of a citizen's home, and therefore inviolate, except for the criminal police proceeding in connection with a breach of the peace and armed with a weapon.

Deputies and senators of the opposition, but also some of the majority, had pointed out the dangers to individual freedoms of this extension of police

## Baader-Meinhof lawyers seek support in Britain

By Marcel Berlins  
Legal Correspondent

The trial of three lawyers accused of offences connected with the defence of members of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist group, has been scheduled to begin in Hamburg in March.

Herr Kurt Gruber, the main accused, is in Britain as part of a campaign to seek legal support to counter what is being claimed as an attack on lawyers' rights to mount a proper defence for their clients.

Herr Groenewold is charged with "criminal support" of his clients in that he supported the hunger strike of the group and circulated information among them, and that he saw network, that their political

consciousness, group identity, and solidarity remained unbroken.

Two other lawyers are also charged with criminal support of the group, for different stated reasons.

The defendants claim that they were doing no more than performing their duties as lawyers, in order to provide the defence for their clients.

All three were in fact excluded from acting for members of the group shortly before the beginning of the trial, in 1975, but after they had spent years preparing for it. Their exclusion was ordered under a law specifically passed by the Federal Government with retrospective effect, to deal with their case.

## Rejection of move to search cars

From Charles Hargrove

Paris, Jan 13

The French police will not be authorized to search vehicles as and when they think fit, part of their increased power to combat banditry and the drugs traffic. The Constitutional Council, the nearest French equivalent to our Supreme Court, announced late last night that it will vote by Parliament in March.

Its ruling was that the powers of the police in the Bill were too general and ill-defined and could be exercised at police discretion even if no breach of the peace had been observed.

It therefore constituted a threat to individual liberty guaranteed by the Constitution and made such a law null and void.

Young barristers, in a statement through their union today, welcomed the council's decision as a victory for the struggle they are pursuing, in common

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From Patricia Clough  
Rome, Jan 13

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This is the interpretation many officials in Brussels are putting on Mr Jenkins's first actions since he took up his appointment last week. Although it is generally accepted that this awesome task has defeated the Community in the past, his performance is already arousing modest hopes of fresh invention.

In a commentary on Mr Jenkins's maiden speech to the European Parliament this week, Signor Emilio Gazzo, editor of *Agence Europe*, the influential daily news letter on the Communists' activities, applauds the new President's clear desire to give the Commission, and by extension the EEC, greater political authority.

Particularly significant in this context, he feels, are the appointment of Mr Henk Vredeling, the veteran Dutch Socialist, as the first European Commissioner responsible for employment policy; the new coordinating role granted to another gifted Socialist, Signor Antonio Gorioli, over the deployment of the Community's various aid operations like the regional and social funds, and the responsibility for improving the working world union.

If a reformed Parliament is ever to assume a more powerful posture than the present largely consultative assembly, then the Commission will have to come forward with some real political initiatives for MPs to consider.

One theory is that it is a political kidnapping. The Brigades' extreme left terrorist group have in the organized kidnapping a murder in Genoa for their political ends. The principal theory is that it is a political kidnapping.

Signor Costa was the kidnap victim in Italy in days. The others were a industrialist and the

## WEST EUROPE

**Madrid bans meeting of Basque mayors**

from Harry Debelius

Madrid, Jan 13.—An order banning a scheduled "summit meeting" of Basque mayors today provoked indignation and a threat of more disturbances in the north of Spain.

At the meeting, promoted by the Basque Nationalist Party and other Basque political movements for next Sunday, the mayors were to have discussed a plea for a general amnesty for political activists, a demand for the re-establishment of a degree of autonomy, and a request for the recognition of the Basque language as valid for all Basque dealings, on a par with Spanish, Spain's official language.

The order banning the meeting was issued in Madrid today by Señor Rodolfo Martín Villa, the Interior Minister. He offered the same time to meet the same mayors at some future date, but this got a chilly reception in the Basque region.

There were urgent meetings of town councils in many parts of the Basque country today, to decide what to do about the exhibition. Proposals consid-

**Gaullist's diagnosis of the 'French disease' upsets his countrymen**

from Charles Hargrove

It required courage for a pillar of the Gaullist establishment to produce a diagnosis of the fundamental ills afflicting French society, which could well have been written by a leader of the opposition.

Not all Frenchmen have applauded M Alain Peyrefitte, biologist, historian, diplomat, minister under De Gaulle, and administrator for monumental investigation of the French social conscience. *Mal Français* (The French Disease), which has recently been published:

It is too sharp and perceptive, too impudent of stereotypes, too critical of deep-rooted bits of thought and behaviour of those who, while allowing at all is not perfect, with some, are basically convinced. Friedrich Sieburg's famous *horror*, that "God isench."

Ever since the state began to assume a modern centralized form under Philippe Bel in the fourteenth century, it has been the enemy of my Frenchness.

But M Peyrefitte's indictment reaches out beyond the state in pursuit of the answer to the question why Frenchmen so often fail to make the most of their many assets, and why they have oscillated between lethargy and insurrection for three centuries. At

De Gaulle, in M Peyrefitte's view, was able to cure the disease of the state, its instability, its lack of authority. He was unable to cure the disease underlying it, that of society.

It was this that made him turn to M Peyrefitte on one occasion, that "power is not power". When one had ever, one could do only a part what one intended. One had to give up against too many restraints and obstacles and too much non-comprehension or ill will from the executives to fulfil one's dreams to be converted into actions. To be the "French disease", in M Peyrefitte's opinion, is the product of bureaucratic centralization and begins its evil career under Richelieu and Louis XIV. It springs, too, from intellectual conservatism and what he calls the "Roman evil of administrative omnipotence".

**Dutch investigation over former British director**

Our Correspondent

The Hague, Jan 13

An investigation into the activities of the British managing director of a Dutch firm to which the Dutch Government gave 57m guilders (about £14m) subsidy during the past two years, has been started in Arnhem. The managing director, who has now left the firm, is Anthony Rodgers.

Mr Marc de Haas, the public prosecutor, confirmed yesterday that the investigation had begun. Dutch trade union officials have complained about payments of at least £400,000 goods which were never delivered.

In addition, a licence for a product developed by the Dutch firm, Tealtronic, of Nijmegen, which manufactures office com-

**Germany lifts controls in Bonn's mission**

Our Correspondent

Berlin, Jan 13

East German police guards posted outside the West German mission in East Berlin and East Germans who are no longer prevented from entering the building. Herr Günter Gaus, head of West German permanent representation in East Berlin, tested on Tuesday to the East German Foreign Ministry, against the restrictions imposed by the day.

According to the East German news agency ADN, East Germans rejected the protest,

**OVERSEAS**  
**Search for hidden weapons in Lebanon**

by

John

Perry

and

John

Perry

## OVERSEAS

## UN to ignore plea by Rhodesia over Botswana complaint

From Michael Kniep

Salisbury, Jan 13

The Rhodesian Government has sent a cable to the United Nations Security Council requesting an invitation to take part in the debate about Botswana's complaint of Rhodesian violations by Rhodesian military forces.

Announcing this in Salisbury today, Mr Peter van der Byl, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, said that this action had been taken under the terms of Chapter 5, Article 32 of the United Nations Charter, which provides for the participation in Security Council debates by non-member states.

Accordingly, a message has been dispatched to the President of the Security Council.

This message says that the Rhodesian Government does not accept Botswana's allegations of aggression and requests an adjournment of the Security Council's deliberations to enable it to prepare an answer and to seek the attendance of a Rhodesian Government representative.

[Tonight, however, the United Nations secretariate said in New York that Rhodesia's request will be officially ignored by the Security Council.]

The Rhodesian Government claims that Botswana is harbouring black nationalist guerrillas and that they are infiltrating into the south and south-western parts of Rhodesia. There has been a marked increase in guerrilla activity in the south, mostly against soft targets such as white-owned farms and motorists.

Botswana denies harbouring guerrillas and claims that Rhodesian troops have been responsible for many border violations, including attacks against villages, and kidnappings.

In Salisbury today, Mr Josiah Chinamano, the vice-president of the African nationalist faction led by Mr Joshua Nkomo, held a press conference to defend the decision of the five African "front line" states to give exclusive backing to the Patriotic Front alliance of Mr Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe.

This was in response to a press conference yesterday in which he denounced the front line presidents' decision.

The Bishop called on Britain to organize a referendum among black Rhodesians to ascertain their choice as leader, and accused the five presidents, particularly President Kaunda of Zambia, of plotting to have Mr Nkomo imposed as leader in Rhodesia.

## Hint of Entebbe-type raid 'to get Daoud'

By Louis Heren

Mr Gideon Rafael, the Israeli Ambassador in London, has hinted that an Entebbe-type raid might be launched to capture Mr Abu Daoud, the Palestinian terrorist, who was released by the French authorities and flew to Algeria.

The ambassador said that the release of the man who planned the murder of Israeli sportsmen at Munich in 1972 was a double invitation to lawlessness. It encouraged terrorism, and put heavy pressure on Israel to seek his capture.

The Israeli embassy also issued a statement accusing the French Government of disseminating distorted information in regard to the legal aspects of the affair. The French claim that the extradition treaty with Israel did not apply because the Munich massacre occurred before the treaty took effect was untrue.

The statement said that the extradition treaty was signed on November 12, 1958, and ratified

Leading article, page 17

## Red Cross urges Israel to improve life in prison

From Eric Marsden

Jerusalem, Jan 13

The Red Cross has called on the Israel Government to reduce overcrowding in its prisons and make the improvements in conditions suggested by the Red Cross earlier but never implemented.

The Jerusalem office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), was commenting indirectly on the continuing hunger-strike of Palestinian prisoners in a number of jails, which began on December 10.

Denying reports that the Red Cross was satisfied with conditions, the statement said: "ICRC delegates have observed some improvements in detention conditions, but a number of problems which have been raised regularly by the ICRC have not been solved. One such problem is the over-crowding."

Improvements in medical services, cultural facilities, family contacts, which had been suggested by the Red Cross and raised by detainees on hunger-strike in Ashkelon had not been made.

Miss Leah Teitel, an Israeli lawyer, who has clients in Ashkelon jail, said that when the hunger strike began prisoners were crowded 16 to 20 in one cell in insanitary conditions and had complained of bad food.

They were locked in the cells for 22 hours out of 24 because they had refused to work. They were being fed forcibly with milk and vitamins through tubes.

Another military communiqué today gave details of the deaths of 24 people in the guerrilla conflict during the recent three-day raid. Eight Palestinian guerrillas were killed by Rhodesian forces, it said.

Bulawayo: Father Paul Egli, aged 45, a Swiss-born Roman Catholic priest, was sentenced yesterday to five years' imprisonment for failing to reveal the presence of guerrillas at his mission station in south-eastern Rhodesia near the Mozambique border. He was released on bail of 1,000 Rhodesian dollars (about £1,000) after giving notice of appeal. —Reuter.

Our Nairobi Correspondent writes: Mr Ivor Richard, chairman of the adjourned Geneva conference, who is here waiting to resume his contacts with African leaders, is due to have another meeting in Maputo on Sunday with Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe.

## Verdict in Longet trial near

Aspen, Colorado, Jan 13—Andy Williams, the singer, subpoenaed quietly in court as his former wife, Claudine Longet, described as a gun went off in her hand and killed Vladimir "Spider" Sabich in the \$250,000 (£150,000) mountain chalet she shared with the ski champion.

Miss Longet, aged 35, a singer and former showgirl, faces up to 10 years in prison if found

MiG25 defector tells of brutality and privation at Soviet air base and finds US contrast astonishing

## 'Grim life' of Russian fighter pilot

From David Binder

Washington, Jan 13

The "debriefing" of Mr Viktor Belenko, the former Soviet Air Force Lieutenant who defected last September, has given a picture of the life of a Soviet pilot characterized by brutal discipline, distrust, extraordinary concern with safety, and Spartan living conditions, American intelligence officers say.

Since arriving in the United States on September 9, after flying his advanced MiG25 fighter to Japan, Mr Belenko has undergone almost continuous interrogation, psychiatric examination and observation by the Central Intelligence Agency, Defence Intelligence Agency and the Air Force.

He has visited an American aircraft carrier, spent time at Langley Air Force base near Newport News, Virginia, and taken a brief fishing holiday in the Appalachian mountains.

He has begun to study English and other subjects at university level and has proved a quick and highly competitive student, officials say.

In addition to the treasure of information provided by the MiG25, a high-performance aircraft codenamed "Foxbat" by Nato, Mr Belenko is said to have proved a gold mine of technical, tactical and operational information about the Soviet Air Force.

American officials are not certain when Mr Belenko will be certified as fit to fly again, but think it may have been a little over a year ago when he en-

countered a foreigner who told him that a MiG25 would be worth a lot of money in the United States.

At the time, he was on leave before taking up his MiG25 assignment in the Soviet Far East, having completed a year as instructor on the older MiG19.

His request for transfer had led to questioning by a political commissar, who asked why he wanted to leave the soft life of an instructor to become a pilot on active duty in a frontier area.

Before being approved for the Far East post, he was interviewed by Air Marshal Pavel Baritsky, Commander of Air Defence Forces. He was assigned to Sakhraoyka, 160 miles north-east of Vladivostok.

A typical week at the base began on a Monday morning when the pilot would be told he was to fly on Tuesday. He would spend the day drafting alternative flight plans. Then he would be given a combat test by his flight chief and a safety examination, and would meet his squadron commander. Each had to certify the pilot's fitness and ability to fly.

On Tuesday morning the safety instructor would fly the route himself to check the weather, and then give another test on safety procedures. Finally, the pilot received a pre-flight mission examination, including questions relating to psychological fitness, and he would be off.

He was impressed by the informality of off-duty relations between American officers and officers, recalling that in his own service there had been no fraternization.

The other ranks at Sakhraoyka, he said, were quartered behind barbed wire in barracks with 50 to 60 to a room, going for months without contact with their families. Suicides were frequent as many as five a month, and the desertion rate was high.

He had witnessed the shooting of a sergeant who deserted. Infractions of discipline were punished with docking of pay, arrests and brutal treatment.

On leaving Langley, he told an intelligence officer: "If my regiment could see five minutes of what is said today, there would be a revolution." —New York Times News Service.

Mr Belenko was baffled, American officials said, by the comparatively easy-going procedures on the aircraft carrier and at Langley.

He was astonished to find the carrier crew handling landings and takeoffs without being given orders and without anyone shouting at them, and impressed by their "proficiency and coordination".

He was also impressed by the size of the food portions served in the other ranks' mess, and said that he would assume the post of Prime Minister, at present held by Mr Hu Kuo-feng, who is concurrently Chairman of the party in succession to Mao Tse-tung.

The nomination of Mr Teng as Prime Minister could well entail the convocation of a fresh plenary session of the National People's Congress, which last met two years ago.

Winter is a good time to convene the congress, since agricultural work in the provinces is at its lowest ebb, and many of the delegates are from rural areas.

However, in the present fluid state of Chinese politics it is possible that the decision to make Mr Teng Prime Minister may prove controversial. It could imply an ironical reversal of roles, since Chairman Hu, who is about 15 years his junior, would probably have to play the role of a kind of first minister to Mr Teng.

The calls for reinstatement and promotion of Mr Teng were made at the same time as other posters warmly praised the contribution to the revolution of the late Chou En-lai, widely thought to have designated Mr Teng his successor.

The former cult of Mao Tse-tung appears to be being quickly buried in these new rules, though doubtless lip service will be paid to Mao's

memory and wishes for a long time.

The fact that Mr Teng was a critic of Mao's Cultural Revolution is confirmed by recent reports from Peking to the effect that Mr Teng wrote a critique of that policy in 1957, which threw special doubt on the practice of sending millions of urban youths to settle in the countryside, undoubtedly an unpopular policy.

Another sign of the resurgent influence of Mr Teng is the resurgence of the stage and film oratorio *The East is Red*, which was highly popular in China until 1966, but was outlawed during the cultural revolution. This was probably because Chiang Ching, Mao's widow, did not participate in the Long March of 1935, whereas Mr Teng and numerous other senior military and civilian leaders of the present day did.

Meanwhile, a Peking newspaper has admitted frankly that the 1974 campaign to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius was a tactic by which the "gang of four" sought to discredit Chou En-lai.

Peking, Jan 13—Wall posters appeared in the Square of Heavenly Peace today calling for greater freedoms for the Chinese people, including the right to choose and dismiss their leaders.

One lengthy wall poster said that, after the purge of the "gang of four", the time was ripe to "restore popular socialist democracy" and give the people greater supervision over the leadership.

Signed by a young person in Peking, it argued that the people were struggling to win democratic rights and that Mr Teng was capable of representing the interests of the masses.

"With chairman Hu Kuo-feng and the Party Central Committee please realize the people's aspirations as soon as possible."

## Mr Teng's return to leadership 'imminent'

From David Bonavia

Hongkong, Jan 13

The imminent return to an important position of Mr Teng Hsiao-ping is now regarded as almost a certainty by responsible observers in Peking and Hongkong.

Mr Teng, who was dismissed from his posts of Deputy Prime Minister and Vice-Chairman of the Communist Party last April, has been praised by numerous wall posters in the Chinese capital over the past few days. Some of them have suggested that he should assume the post of Prime Minister, at present held by Mr Hu Kuo-feng, who is concurrently Chairman of the party in succession to Mao Tse-tung.

The nomination of Mr Teng as Prime Minister could well entail the convocation of a fresh plenary session of the National People's Congress, which last met two years ago.

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## Japan backs the Carter plan for tax cuts

From Peter Hazelhurst

Tokyo, Jan 13

Mr Takeo Fukuda, the Japanese Prime Minister, agreed today with President-elect Carter that Japan and the United States should take urgent steps to stimulate their economies in an attempt to lift the world out of the present recession.

Speaking to Mr Fukuda this morning in his first round of telephone discussions with leaders of the industrialized nations, Mr Carter said that the world economy was close to collapse and that responsibility for a stable international order lay on the shoulders of the United States, Japan and West Europe.

Mr Carter is understood to have said that he would convey Mr Fukuda's views to the leaders of Britain and France, with whom he had telephone contact yesterday, and to West Germany.

According to a spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Office, Mr Carter, who has already advocated tax cuts as a stimulus for economic growth in the United States, told Mr Fukuda that he will present Congress with a \$15,000m (about £9,000m) package to increase spending and encourage growth.

During their conversation the two men agreed that Japan and the industrialized nations of the West must hold a summit conference as soon as possible.

## Anger over Supreme Court ruling on black housing

From Fred Emery

Ottawa, Jan 13—Four Cuban

have left Canada under expulsion orders as their Government acknowledged conducting information-gathering, but not intelligence activities in Montreal.

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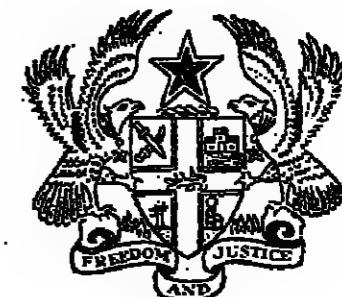
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مكتبة من الأصل

THE TIMES REGRETS THIS GHANA PAGE COULD NOT BE PUBLISHED YESTERDAY—THE ACTUAL ANNIVERSARY

# GHANA

## 5 years of self reliance



On this fifth anniversary of the Government of Ghana, it is significant to note that the Government's policy of Self-Reliance has laid solid foundations for the transformation of economic and social life in Ghana. The policy has created a new tempo for the restructuring of the economy which was on the verge of collapse at the time of the take over in January 1972.

This awakening and the enthusiasm shown by Ghanaians, coupled with the staunch support of the Supreme Military Council, under the leadership of General I. K. Acheampong, Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, have affected every sector of the Ghanaian community. Today, a marked change can be seen, not only in the economy, but also in the social and moral life of the people.

Altogether, the Government of the Supreme Military Council has spent over £1,397 million on development projects during this period while, at the same time, it has repaid a substantial part of the country's short-term debts.

### AGRICULTURE

The Government has made a most notable achievement in the field of agriculture for the country is near self-sufficiency in rice and maize production. The "Operation Feed Yourself" programme has greatly increased the tempo of agricultural activities throughout the country. Backyard gardening is now a popular feature of life in the urban areas, while citizens in the rural areas have become familiar with large scale farming.

With the launching of the "Operation Feed Your Industry" project, many factories have established industrial farms and are cultivating cash crops like rubber, sugar-cane, cotton, oil, palm, etc., to feed local industries with raw materials.

The Agricultural Development Bank, the Bank of Ghana and other financial institutions are also helping in the venture by providing loans at low interest rates to people taking to farming.

The Government has continued to give special attention to agriculture in its budget. C.53 million has been allocated to this sector in the 1976/77 budget. This shows an increase of about 41 per cent over last year's. Care has been taken to ensure that all sectors of the country's agriculture receive adequate attention.

During the past five years, the State Fishing Corporation has not only been able to increase its production by 60 per cent, but it has also expanded its cold room facilities. An amount of C.2 million has been provided in the 1976/77 budget to enable the Ministry of Agriculture implement the Government's fisheries objectives. These include the rehabilitation of fishing trawlers of the State Fishing Corporation and the strengthening of the Corporation's marketing and distribution systems. Others are the intensification of the fish culture programme in the Northern and Upper Regions of Ghana and the commencement of a Ghana Government/UNDP Fish Farming Training and Development Programme.

Livestock development continues to receive the attention of the Government. For the 1976/77 financial year, C.8.15 million will be spent on livestock. Of this amount, about C.2.6 million will be used for the development of beef and dairy cattle and C.1.2 million for development of sheep and goats.

Owing to the success of the Dawhenya Irrigation Project, the following allocations have been made for other irrigation projects: Tano, C.3.7 million; Affie, C.143,000; and Okyereko, C.176,500.

Development of transportation is seen as an integral part of the Government's effort to increase agricultural production. Attention is therefore focused on feeder roads. For the first time ever, a special allocation of C.4.6 million has been made for periodic maintenance of feeder roads. Besides, the Ghana Highway Authority is to purchase roads construction equipment worth C.3.5 million for the Second Highway Programme.

It is noteworthy that since the Government assumed office in January 1972, it has gradually increased the producer price of cocoa from C.8.00 to C.20.00 per load. Two major cocoa projects, the Sunyani Ghana Government/IBRD (World Bank) and the Ashanti Cocoa Projects are receiving intensive Government support. The price of coffee has also been increased to C.25.00 per load.

### HEALTH

There has been much improvement in the health services of the country during the past five years. A number of health centres and 87 health posts have been built to make health facilities reach more people particularly those in the rural areas. Several regional and district hospitals have been modernised and more are being expanded. The Government has not overlooked training facilities for health personnel to cope with the expanding service. It has established a second medical school at Kumasi, a number of health training institutions are being expanded and qualified Ghanaians have been offered scholarships for further training overseas.

### EDUCATION

There have been bold efforts to restructure the educational system of the country to cope with both prevailing and future employment trends.

To meet the increase in the intake of children of school going age, C.1,049,000 has been provided to complete work on the required construction projects. Provision has also been made to cater for more students expected to enrol in secondary schools. Government also attaches much importance to vocational and technical education and it has thus voted C.4.5 million for the purpose.

The Universities have for the past five years been greatly encouraged both financially and morally to place emphasis on scientific research and the production of scientific personnel as these are very much in demand.

### HOUSING

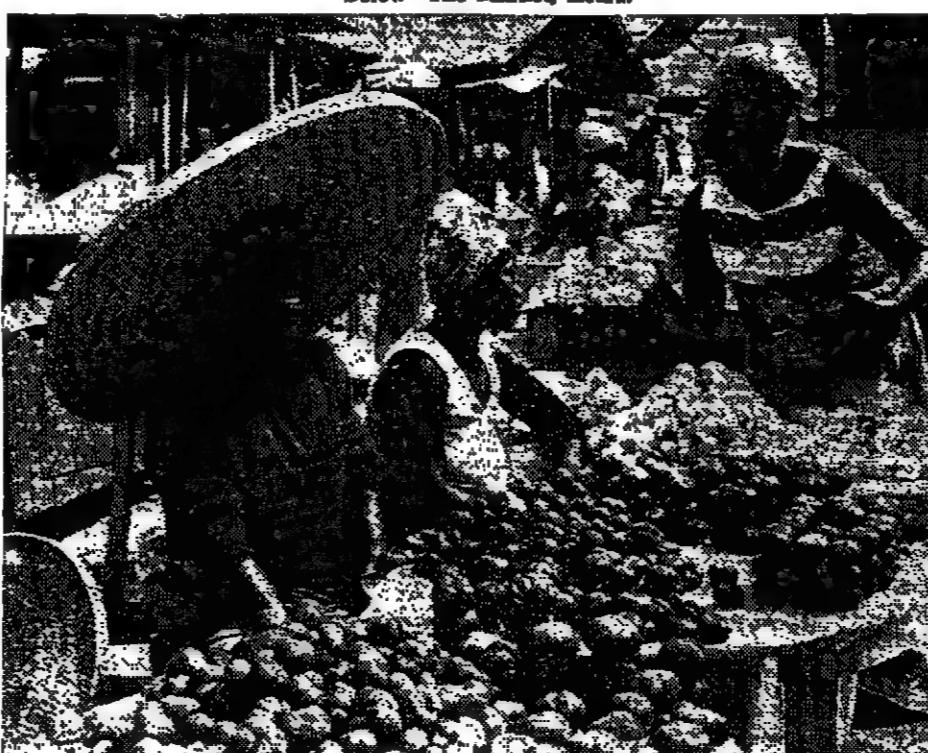
One of the main objectives of the Government is to provide every Ghanaian family with decent housing at reasonable cost. Consequently it has been giving full support to the construction of housing units throughout the country. The

\* C= Cedis (£1 sterling=1.95 Cedis)



Above—H. E. General Ignatius K. Acheampong, Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Military Council.

Below—The Market, Accra.



Roof Loans and Wall Protection Schemes of the Department of Rural Development is also being encouraged to help the rural people improve their houses.

### WATER

The provision of water, especially to the rural areas, has been a great concern of the Government. Since 1972, the Government has spent about C.20 million yearly in providing good drinking water outside the Accra-Tema metropolitan area.

### ELECTRICITY

While the Government has been making much effort to provide every part of the country with electricity, it has also been taking steps to avoid the anticipated shortage of electrical power by 1978.

Construction of the Kpong Hydro-Electric Scheme will therefore start very soon, and the Government has also commissioned a group of consultants to update the feasibility studies done on the Bui Hydro-Electric Scheme.

### TRADE

The Government has repaid 117 million dollars of the 180 million dollars debts it inherited from the previous regime. This has eased the country's external debt position remarkably. The high price of oil has, however, been a major setback in the country's external trade transactions.

Cocoa, timber, and gold still form Ghana's major exports. But with new incentives introduced by the Government, non-traditional exports like pineapples, ginger and cashew nuts are gradually gaining ground in Ghana's export trade.

Internally the Government has streamlined the distributive system and its machinery through the Specified Commodities and the Investment Policy Decrees. Certain items of mass daily consumption—sugar, milk, baby food, mackerel, and certain brands of soap are now sold only by designated supermarkets to make the products readily accessible to ordinary citizens at controlled prices.

The Investment Policy Decree which came into effect on December 31, 1976, has given to Ghanaians a large proportion of equity share-holding in foreign-owned companies, most of which are trading institutions. Nevertheless, there are still abundant opportunities for foreign investment in productive enterprises.

### TOURISM

Tourism continues to make significant contribution to the foreign exchange earnings of the country. The state-owned Ghana Tourist Development Company runs Duty Free/Diplomatic shops and a Foreign exchange shop at the Kotoka International Airport and other places in Accra. Negotiations are going on for the construction of two major new hotels in Accra, and tourist villages are planned for Ada and Bortianor. Infrastructural improvements are going to make the major hotels more attractive to international tourists.

Strategic distribution of medium sized motels and lodges are going on in the country not only to boost domestic travel, but also to encourage international travellers to visit every part of the country.

### FOREIGN AFFAIRS

In the past five years, Ghana has pursued a policy of friendship with all countries and a dynamic African policy which resolutely opposes any form of fraternisation with apartheid South Africa.

The Government has continued to co-operate with the organization of African Unity (O.A.U.), the Commonwealth, the non-aligned movement and the United Nations to help achieve world peace.

### NATIONAL CHARTER

The Government has pursued the objectives of the National Charter of Redemption, the blueprint of the 13th January Revolution. In October 1976, General I. K. Acheampong, the Head of State and Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, inaugurated the reconstituted National Charter Committee of 23 members, and opened new offices for the Charter Secretariat.

Committees of the Charter have also been set up at regional, district, town and village levels to see to the practical implementation of the Charter.

### THE GOVERNMENT

The Supreme Military Council continued during 1976 as the highest legislative and administrative policy-making body in the country. In October 1975, it superseded the National Redemption Council which has now assumed executive role and functions.

General I. K. Acheampong, the Head of State, is Chairman of both Councils.

### PROPOSALS FOR A UNION GOVERNMENT

For the future administration of the country, the Government has proposed the formation of a Union Government based on the principle of national unity. It is hoped that such a Union Government will avoid a return to party politics which, in the past, encouraged rivalry, tribalism, corruption and other social vices among Ghanaians.

Meanwhile, the Government has invited the public to make suggestions for the realization of the idea.

Confident in the knowledge that the economy is now responding to the Government's measures, encouraged by the support which they have given to the policy of Self Reliance and happy that foreign investors are showing confidence in the performance of the economy, Ghanaians look forward with hope and optimism for more co-operation and a brighter future.

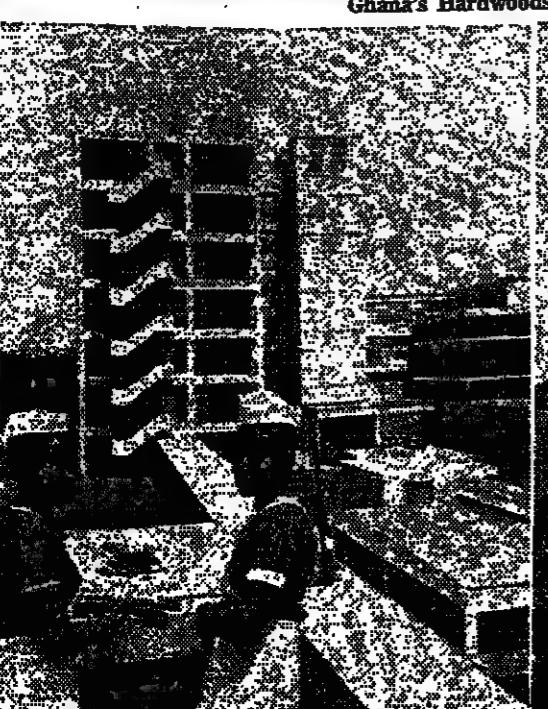
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, ACCRA



Ghana's Hardwoods

Royal Palms

Akosombo Dam

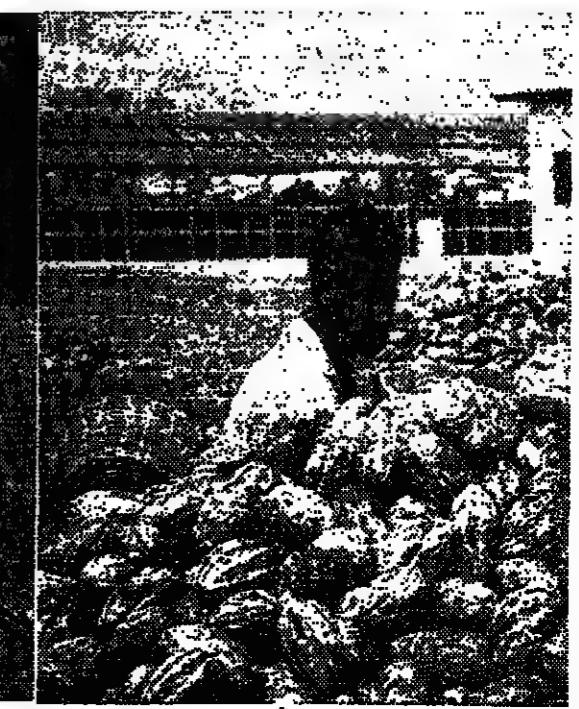


Nurses in Accra

Agriculture



Textiles



Cocoa

# Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

## Main line

Last week Main Rousseau Bocher died in his beloved city of Munich. Born on October 24, 1850, in Chicago to a family of French Huguenot origin, and taking his first name from his mother's side, by 1929 this gifted young man was established as a world leader in fashion under a typically smart running title usually pronounced Mainbocher. His dandy clothes the cynosure of great Paris haute couture between the wars. Chanel, Vionnet, Moynat, Lelong, natives and worshiping expatriots, have been gathered to the place where no customer says the dress does not fit, turns up at Longchamps wearing the same as her dearest rival, and where no journalist writes a cruel note about the latest collection.

With Hartnell so fresh in my mind I find it convenient to first dispose of certain provocative parallels and contrasts in the careers of Mainbocher and Hartnell. Both have been close to the throne of England. Hartnell of course with his memorable royal ensembles. Mainbocher because he made many dresses for the Duchess of Windsor whose now-married prissy style he captured perfectly. He understood so well in fact that his dull little wedding dress for her caused Edna Woolman Chase, doyenne of *Vogue* magazine, to remark that she thought the Duchess and Mainbocher "might have done better than they did"—a remark which has always seemed to me the epitome of knowing one's style. The Duchess was less certain—dare one say less generous—in recognizing others. Consulted on how the Queen Mother, then Queen Elizabeth, might enhance the (Hartnell designed) prestige of British couture overseas she is reported to have replied "by staying at home" though in fact HM's visit to Paris in 1939 was a triumph and Hartnell was honoured by France as Officier d'Academie a mere 35 years before his knighthood.

The second parallel is that Mainbocher was anxious to work in theatre design, although his talents in this direction were hardly convincing. "Among the least interesting of his work" according to Dale McConathy, who wrote the excellent brief biography of the designer in *American Fashion* published in 1975 via the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. The third thing to note is that as Hartnell was the first recorded designer to sue (Poirier had tried) a copyist in the courts, Mainbocher was the first to impose a "caution" or viewing charge, on those who saw his collection.

Was it worth charging? Having studied, through the courtesy of the Fashion Institute, a good number of Mainbocher models, I would have thought not. He remains to me the supreme craftsman, the clothes perfectionist, the man to whom (and to whose clients) an eighth of an inch misfit on a tailored suit rendered it unbearable to designer and client alike. His mania for refinement and simplicity—which met its apotheosis in the Duchess of Windsor—was at once a celebration of the art of couture which he had found and loved in Paris and a denial of the right of a designer to be both innovative and witty. Mainbocher clothes are not witty.

What they are is dauntingly chic, a word which causes the English to roll their eyes and bolt, unless of course one is a man... Mainbocher's clothes tended to demand a great deal in the way ofimoto confidence and perfection of grooming, something else the British prefer to leave to their horses and dogs. The clothes are ravishing, per se, but cold as ice, stunning by perfection not sexy allure. The polar extreme from that special blend of Hartnell grandeur and cosiness.

The itch to design for the stage may have been inculcated by Main Bocher's early interest in opera. Edna Woolman Chase records in more detail than his biographer (and also with somewhat more tartness, but then Main worked for her of which more in a minute) that his early ambition was to be an opera singer. "Precarious health was, I believe, one reason why he abandoned his youthful dream... the other was his size. He is rather short and stocky of build and in opera would inevitably be limited in the rôle he could play." (Has appearance really ever limited anyone? Most singers I know are as broad as they are high.) "Also his voice, though lovely in quality, was not large. Lieder and concert singing would most likely have been his medium and there the financial return is less impressive. Main's idea of salary was grandiose."

One could say Mainbocher came into fashion via music. He sold sketches of models to pay for singing lessons. Mrs Chase regarded his talent for drawing as "not important" but says that he had



Above: Mainbocher fitting a model.

Drawn by Eric for "Vogue", 1934

Left: Mainbocher models sketched for "Vogue" by Eric, 1939



to his own clothes and the problems of his private clients not *Vogue*'s readers. He did introduce three innovations to fashion though. In 1930, in his first collection, he amazed people with strapless dresses. In 1939 he was all set to launch a line based on a tightly cinched waist and rounded curves—what was in fact later produced by Dior as the New Look. The Second World War intervened. Main went home to America—rather criticized by those who stayed to see things through—and signed an extremely lucrative contract with Warner, the corset people, to manufacture his wartime girdles.

His last innovation was certainly patriotic. To fuel-conscious shivering ladies he gave the jewelled cardigan, still to be seen around in a certain, probably blue, v-neck, set. It was a suitable gesture, since fabric and texture had always been the source of his inspiration; for Una he looked a lot at Vionnet. Strangely, for one so perceptive, when he was in Paris he never appreciated the textile experiments of the Russian artist Sonia Delaunay. Dale McConathy wonders if this was because such boutique goings on were too lowly for his exalted attention. Mainbocher was a snob.

In 1929 Main suddenly crossed the floor.

Leaving *Vogue*, he opened his own haute couture salon with the backing of his mother, and the fabulous Kitty Miller, Countess Albert de Munro—was she the *cheveu noir* of Lord Derby, our ambassador to Paris in 1920?—and Countess Paul de Vallombrosa. But it was his faultless taste, as an editor which continued to bring him success, even though it was now applied

## NEW BOOKS

### Cultural astronaut

Nadar

By Nigel Gosling

(Secker &amp; Warburg, £9.75)

When Jules Verne first sent a spaceship to the Moon in 1865, he selected a crew of three to represent the progressive spirit of the age and "carry into interplanetary all the resources of art, science and industry". Two of them were American industrialists; the third was a wild-eyed, carrot-haired, volatile Frenchman called Michel Ardan who had an overwhelming passion for new ideas and inventions and "had not yet outgrown the Age of Superlatives". This extravagant cultural astronaut was Nadar.

Today Nadar's name—itself an invention, a "logo"—belongs essentially to a History of Publicity that has yet to be written: the history of advertising, campaign personality, journalism, scientific popularizing, product marketing, inventing, exhibition mounting, public spectacles and polemics. His long and astonishingly varied life (1820-1910) in Paris cuts laterally across the whole range of artistic and scientific endeavour in a vividly revealing way, and no account of such apparently disparate phenomena as the rise of the daily newspaper, the history of ballooning, French Impressionist painting, the Paris Commune and Socialism, the development of the aeroplane, "bohemian" Romanticism, or the history of caricature and magazine illustration would be complete without him.

Yet if one discipline can be

said to sum up his eclectic genius, it was undoubtedly his supreme gift as a studio photographer, in the heroic young days of the wet-plate and portrait, between 1854 and 1870. Nigel Gosling's really magnificent album is a celebration of this central achievement. It contains 80 full-page prints of leading artistic celebrities—among whom are Delacroix, Sarah Bernhardt, Berlioz, George Sand, Corot, Dumas, Baudelaire, Rossini, Courbet, Manet, Verdi, Hugo, Offenbach—together with a fascinating scrapbook of European notables ranging from Bakounine and Dame Nellie Melba, to Franz Liszt and a Har from the *Maison Larivière*.

Interest in Nadar's work as a photographer was originally revived in Paris during the mid-Sixties by a superb exhibition at the Bibliothèque Nationale, and a learned monograph by the then director of the Cabinet des Estampes, M. Jean Prinet (1966). Since that time there has occurred something of a general explosion of research into the documentary and artistic value of nineeenth-century photography, with cracks and collodion crating very properly reconstructed.

Mr Gosling has retained the

editorial formula of his predecessors: a long introductory essay sketching out Nadar's kaleidoscopic career, and a page of biographical information placed alongside each portrait in the main "Pantheon". He concludes with a selection of smaller pictures from the rest of the enormous Atelier Nadar collection (over 400,000 plates), many taken by Nadar's son Paul in the period 1870 to 1900. This method has many advantages: the effect of a cross-section of two entire Parisian generations—with constantly surprising and illuminating interconnections—is invaluable. Many of the biographic summaries are masterpieces of journalistic anecdote and outline, with particularly telling use made of the Goncourt



Sarah Bernhardt, circa 1866

taken directly from the original glass plates in the Archives Photographiques, with cracks and collodion crating very properly reconstructed.

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Richard Holm

court's waspish *Jean Michel* is described as "Historian with glasses"; Gautier's ch. love-life is a character while visiting *Caricotta* went through the wrong *é* and entered (her si) *Ernest*. There are, I suspect, occasional lapses in accuracy which will be picked up by specialists; but I note in passing that Gérard de Nerval born in Paris, not in Germ and died on the 26th not 22nd, of January, 1855.

The one slight disappointment, perhaps, is that Mr Gosling did not use his text space to give more of Nadar's original writings, which complement his photographs well. There are, for example, fascinating passages on early studio experiences, a taken from *Quand j'étais photographié* (1900), an unexplicated manuscript notes *Bandolier*, *Nerval*, *Mu* and other writers; and one unpublished letter to his *litan* editor *Charles Phil* which would give a unique picture of the growing "me world in Paris.

But one cannot have everything, and Mr Gosling has given us a great deal: in something like a revolution the act of historical renaissance. He writes sympathetically on Nadar's character—generosity, his flamboyant loyalty to friends trouble, sickness or old age and his obsession with "trappings of a man's personality". He sees clearly dominating, difficult side.

Nadar's entrepreneurial nature in his relations with younger brother, and his son; and he quotes an aspemark by the Goncourts on Nadar's convenient cult of *mère*. But above all he gives a lively sense of Nadar's place in the history of him making:

*His portraits were warm, direct and manly; it is interesting to compare them with the roughly temporary work of Julia Cameron in England. He never entered the studio and painted his sitters (such as the mother dead children, for whom an mistress of Edmond de Goncourt used to paint wings on to his likenesses), and there is new track in his photographs of a wife by which he gave his name as a "photographer". He gives something which can be interpreted as a last expression of Renaissance vision of man. His subjects head on, with respect for eminence which is the sign of his age and standing of character which his own. The relaxed gravity of portraits is often reminiscent of Rembrandt...*

## Out of step

### Persona Non Grata

An Envoy in Castro's Cuba

By Jorge Edwards

Translated by Colin Harding (Bodley Head, £6.95)

Jorge Edwards was sent as chargé d'affaires to open a Chilean embassy in Havana in 1970, immediately after Allende came to power. It was in any case intended to be only a temporary appointment, until a full ambassador could be appointed and sent. In the event Senior Edwards was withdrawn as the informal request of the Cuban government after a stay of three-and-a-half months.

His last innovation was certainly patriotic. To fuel-conscious shivering ladies he gave the jewelled cardigan, still to be seen around in a certain, probably blue, v-neck, set. It was a suitable gesture, since fabric and texture had always been the source of his inspiration; for Una he looked a lot at Vionnet. Strangely, for one so perceptive, when he was in Paris he never appreciated the textile experiments of the Russian artist Sonia Delaunay. Dale McConathy wonders if this was because such boutique goings on were too lowly for his exalted attention. Mainbocher was a snob.

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### Special relationship

#### Alone of all her sex

The Myth and the Cult of the Virgin Mary

By Marina Warner

(Weidenfeld &amp; Nicolson, £6.50)

Never one without two—this is the second book about the Virgin Mary which has been published recently. Geoffrey Ashe's search for the historical Mary (*The Virgin*) is complemented by Marina Warner's study, which is deeply concerned with the myth and cult of the Virgin Mary, while leaving the treatment of his writer friends very mild.

But Edwards himself has no illusions about this. He half-seriously endorses Castro's

criticism of him as a carping bourgeois intellectual whom the revolution has no time to worry about, and resigns himself to being condemned by the hard left for his inability to adopt their Marxist view of the universe. The title he sets most store by is that of writer, and though somewhat prolix he does clearly have the writer's ear for dialogue and eye for psychological detail. His picture of the Cuban government after a stay of three-and-a-half months. By his own account he was a bad choice for the job, because of his friendship with Cuban writers of whom by 1970 the Castro regime had become suspicious. His contracts and conversations with them were duly monitored by the Cuban security service, and the best known of them, Heberto Padilla, was arrested two days before Edwards' departure. Four weeks later Padilla was released and publicly denounced himself as "objectively counter-revolutionary", and other members of his circle followed suit. By then (April, 1971) Edwards was safely ensconced in the Chilean embassy in Paris, where he remained until the coup in Chile in September, 1973. He now lives in exile in Barcelona.

This book is an extremely detailed, indeed somewhat repetitive, account of his experiences and impressions during those three and a half months in Cuba, with an epilogue devoted to the subsequent history of Chile and to some reflections on the contrasts and convergences between the two

Fathers prove them to have been raving mad, the vision of Mary as Queen of Heaven, at the Sorrows of the Immaculate Conception. She is considered the extraordinary, and to many extraordinary, expression of maternal love, the special relationship between Mary and women were subtly degraded". As the Catholic Church's misogyny cannot accommodate in the mode world "the reality her my describes is over: the more code she affirms has been exhausted".

Something is missing her perhaps the beautiful illustrations supply it—exemplified through the ages the love a devotion offered to some considered to be more than myth or a cult. Today it takes a quick, horrified look at a woman forced to wear a disfiguring and hideous mask; her adult life to realize the Christian churches, for their faults, have a totally different view of women, much

is directly attributable to reverence and love afforded Mary. By comparison the willingness of the Catholic Church to allow women an arduous public role than that of church cleaner appears almost lovable.

Admittedly, there is difficulty in accommodating the Virgin of Guadalupe, fair eyelashes and all, with mode views. I recall hearing an American priest starting a sermon on the Feast of Christ the King: "To us as Americans the idea of a king totally repugnant". If a modern image of Mary is required, it of a woman no longer young, comforting by her presence her son, put to a cruel death by enemies and deserted by friends. It is a scene which will be repeated many times in major parts of the world in the last quarter of the twentieth century.

Books next week: Michael Ratcliffe on the Poems of Day-Lewis 1925-1972; Derek Parker on a new life of Bard Corvo; H. R. F. Keating on the New Year crop of crime fiction

## Paranormal fever

### Psi and the Consciousness Explosion

By Stuart Holroyd

(Bodley Head, £4.95)

Whether or not Stuart Holroyd is the right man to act as your guide to paranormal phenomena, rather depends on how you feel about sentences like this:

"The 'consciousness explosion' has taken the form of a chain-reaction quite as terrifying in some ways as the beautiful and menacing clouds of the atomic bomb. What after all is consciousness? and mysticism has swept over Western Europe and America in a tide which shows no sign of abating. The psychic and ideological foundations of Western man and his society have been devasted.

(What do you mean, you hadn't noticed?)

The fevered approach characterizes much of the book. Holroyd is rarely content to outline the evidence for or against telepathy, clairvoyance, pre-cognition or psychokinesis, he is forever lighting beacons, sounding alarms and shouting about the dawn of a new era. No sooner, for example, have we settled down to a reasonable discussion of the experimental work of W. H. Myers and the Society for Psychical Research than he runs on to underline its apocalyptic significance.

Myers's question about the possibility of "a universal world", we're told, "lit a signal fire that was to burn away for nearly a century before it finally exploded the rationalist-materialist view of man and the world".

The style wouldn't matter so much if Holroyd was simply

Laurie Taylor

another guru seeking new devotees. But he obviously

knows his subject matter well (from the table-tappings of the early spiritualists to contemporary spoon-bending and back again) and also has the philosophical skill to see how "psi" (his collective term for paranormal events) challenges both the theories and methods of conventional science. And while his "credibility threshold" (his own term for readiness to accept evidence as true) is rather lower than most, he's not afraid to dismiss a few charlatans from the scene.

Perhaps he could be persuaded to be a little quieter next time; someone who believes so fervently in the subtleties of human communication should bang fewer drums.

## FOYLES ART GALLERY

### AN EXHIBITION OF DOLLS

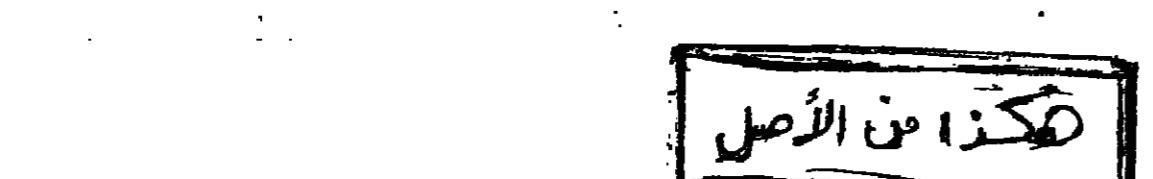
by Members of the

### DOLLMAKERS CIRCLE

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One of the disadvantages—I speak comparatively, of course—of owning a very elaborately jewelled watch is that it becomes a prominent feature of your appearance, not just a handy gadget for knowing what the time is. For this reason watches which can be matched into a suite of other jewelry have a distinct advantage. Galerie Jean Renet on the corner of Bond Street and Piccadilly have a magnificent collection of Montre Royale watches which you can get a necklace, or cufflinks, or a ring designed to complement. The necklace is made in 18ct white gold, onyx and diamond, and costs £7,550. The man's watch by Montre Royale is in 18ct yellow gold, set with diamonds, crocodile strap, price £3,375. The matching ring costs £650 and the links in gold and diamonds, £1,175.







## PORT

athletics

wo from  
British  
track win  
wards

Cliff Temple

Athletics Correspondent

David Moorcroft and Sonia Lamman, who will remember the Montreal Olympic Games with many regrets of pleasure, have just seen the first fruits of the Kraft Olympia scholarship, which will allow each of them £1,000 to be used for living expenses in 1977. The scholarships are awarded annually to male and female British stars as part of Kraft's sponsorship up to the 1980 Moscow games.

Moorcroft, a 22-year-old Loughborough University student, has people through his reputations (his first experience of competition at this level), he reached the final of the 110 metres, finishing seventh. He may now have another opportunity to race against several others who ran in an Olympic including John Walker, a medal winner. He leaves on January 20 for a two-week tour of the USA. The cost of this is met by his hosts, who will come from the scholarship.

Sonia Lamman, a 20-year-old

ex-typist from Solihull, is Britain's only woman athlete of

world class, which made her

drawn from the Olympic 100

metres with a torn left

spring last year before

she became the British

champion in 1976. She had beaten

the eventual winners of the 100

metres gold and silver medals,

Richter (West Ger-

man) and Renate Stecher (East Germany), to confirm her status and potential.

Although she and her Wolverhampton coach, Charles Taylor, have not yet decided how the money will be spent, apart from possible travel, to try and help Germany in the summer, it seems likely that some of it may have to go on injury treatment expenses.

Since winning a 60-metre race in December in the indoor arena, now capable of holding the European indoor championships, but the outdoor Aldersley stadium at Wolverhampton, only a few weeks away from Cosford, will stage this year's European Club Championships featuring 12 countries.

The competition, featuring 12 countries,

will be held in Britain for the first

time and the British League's 1976

champions, Wolverhampton and Blyth, will be the hosts.

Cosford starting tonight (7.0).



David Moorcroft (left) and Sonia Lamman, the first winners of an annual scholarship for training purposes.



Sonia Lamman, the first winners of an annual scholarship for training purposes.

## Tennis

Cox and Miss Wade  
still at the top

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent

The Lawn Tennis Association rankings, which were approved by their council yesterday, suggest that Moorcroft and Virginia Wade are still slightly ahead of the younger generation. Christopher Mottram shared first place with Cox a year ago but is now in second place, with Cox alone at the top for the fifth time. This is the seventh occasion on which the LTA have listed Miss Wade as the number one of the women, though she is being closely challenged by Susan Barker.

These are the fifteenth consecutive rankings in which Britain's leading man or leading woman, or both, have been left-handers. The players concerned in that sequence have been: Billy Knight, Ann Jones, Roger Taylor, Christopher Mottram, who reduced his competitive programme last year, is listed fourth, his lowest ranking since 1964. For the first time, John Lloyd moves above him, in fifth place, to John Peever, who has also been left-handed. The LTA have issued a list of the women's European indoor championships at San Sebastian on March 12 and 13.

Britain do not yet have an open competition of their own, but the RAF Cosford, where she made her name and has been appearing regularly for training sessions, Miss Lamman has injured her other hamstring and has now decided against competing in the European indoor championships this year. This means she will not be defending her 60-metre title in Philips meeting at Cosford starting tonight (7.0).

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ments before Wimbledon (June 20 to July 2) is still a little uncertain. But it seems there will be four weeks of grass court preparation for anyone who chooses to have it.

Clashing with the French championships will be the Surbiton and West of Scotland tournaments (May 23 to 28) and the Beckenham and Manchester events (May 30 to June 4 or 5). From June 6 to June 10, with the British Open at Nottingham (scheduled to finish on June 12), Chichester, Merseyside and Halifax. In the following week, immediately preceding Wimbledon, the women will have the Federation Cup team competition at Bournemouth and there will also be tournaments at Queen's Club and the Scottish championships, together with Midland Counties and South Northumberland tournaments.

The LTA rankings, with last year's placings in brackets are:

Men: 1. Cox (equal 1); 2. C. Mottram; 3. R. Taylor (3); 4. J. Lloyd; 5. R. Peever; 6. A. W. Dwyer; 7. A. G. Barker; 8. G. Barker; 9. C. Mottram; 10. A. Lloyd; 11. C. Mottram; 12. C. Mottram; 13. A. Lloyd; 14. C. Mottram; 15. A. Lloyd; 16. C. Mottram; 17. A. Lloyd; 18. C. Mottram; 19. A. Lloyd; 20. C. Mottram.

Women: 1. Cox (equal 1); 2. S. B. Barker; 3. S. G. L. Coles (3); 4. S. B. Barker; 5. S. V. Wade (3); 6. S. B. Barker; 7. S. V. Wade (3); 8. S. B. Barker; 9. S. V. Wade (3); 10. S. B. Barker; 11. S. V. Wade (3); 12. S. B. Barker; 13. S. V. Wade (3); 14. S. B. Barker; 15. S. V. Wade (3); 16. S. B. Barker; 17. S. V. Wade (3); 18. S. B. Barker; 19. S. V. Wade (3); 20. S. B. Barker.

Under-18s: Men: 1. Mottram (3); 2. Mottram (3); 3. Smith (3); 4. Mottram (3); 5. Whiteford (3); 6. Mottram (3); 7. Mottram (3); 8. Mottram (3); 9. Mottram (3); 10. Mottram (3); 11. Mottram (3); 12. Mottram (3); 13. Mottram (3); 14. Mottram (3); 15. Mottram (3); 16. Mottram (3); 17. Mottram (3); 18. Mottram (3); 19. Mottram (3); 20. Mottram (3); 21. Mottram (3); 22. Mottram (3); 23. Mottram (3); 24. Mottram (3); 25. Mottram (3); 26. Mottram (3); 27. Mottram (3); 28. Mottram (3); 29. Mottram (3); 30. Mottram (3); 31. Mottram (3); 32. Mottram (3); 33. Mottram (3); 34. Mottram (3); 35. Mottram (3); 36. Mottram (3); 37. Mottram (3); 38. Mottram (3); 39. Mottram (3); 40. Mottram (3); 41. Mottram (3); 42. Mottram (3); 43. Mottram (3); 44. Mottram (3); 45. Mottram (3); 46. Mottram (3); 47. Mottram (3); 48. Mottram (3); 49. Mottram (3); 50. Mottram (3); 51. Mottram (3); 52. Mottram (3); 53. Mottram (3); 54. Mottram (3); 55. Mottram (3); 56. Mottram (3); 57. Mottram (3); 58. Mottram (3); 59. 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Reg Prentice on the millions who want a left-of-centre alternative to the Tories

# Have the moderates lost all their will to fight against Labour's 'new' left?

This extract from a letter is typical of the hundreds of people who have written to me since I resigned from the Government:

"I used to vote Labour, as did my wife. We have been sadly disillusioned... Frankly, I do not relish the prospect of voting for the Conservatives and I do not, at present, see much point in voting Liberal, though probably that is where I would fit best. Clearly I am one of those who are desperately hoping that a new, progressive, down-to-earth party may emerge somewhere to the left of centre."

There are probably millions of people who feel like this. Some, like my correspondent, no longer vote Labour. Others did so last time, but say "never again". Their numbers will almost certainly grow.

Most of these people believe in the Labour Party as it was. They could identify with the party of Attlee and Bevin, the party of Gaitskell and Griffiths, the party that Jim Callaghan and many of his Cabinet colleagues would still like it to be. But it has changed. It has moved away from the people.

Even at the October 1974 election, which Labour should have won overwhelmingly, it polled less than 40 per cent of the votes cast and less than 30 per cent of those entitled to vote. Now it would poll much less. Working-class and middle-class support for the Labour Party is rapidly slipping away.

The standard explanation of this trend is that the party has "moved to the left" in recent years. This is clearly the case. Compare the resolutions passed by the Labour Party Conference in 1976 with those of the Tribune group in the early sixties. Compare the people who entered Parliament



Reg Prentice: where do we go from here?

in 1970, or since. They are very different from the old left-wingers. Many of us who were proud to feel that someone like Fenner Brockway was a parliamentary colleague can only regard people like Dennis Skinner as political antagonists opposed to all our social democratic values.

Second, there has been a steady decline in the capacity—or the will—of the moderates to fight back. In the past the right-wing case was put as vigorously as the left-wing case. This happened at all levels of the party. As a young delegate to my local general management committee during the period of the Attlee government, I often made

mildly left-wing speeches of a Bainesian character. But I was answered by active, articulate people with modern views. At Labour Party conferences in the 1940s and 1950s there were barnstorming right-wing speeches from the trade union leaders of the day, such as Arthur Deakin and Will Lawther. In 1960 Hugh Gaitskell emerged as a leader of great stature when he pledged himself and called on the rest of us to "fight, fight and fight again to save the party we have made any enemies".

By stages we have seen people lose the will to fight back. Compromise, conciliation and surrender have become the conventional wisdom of

political survival. When I have ventured to take a personal stand on certain issues over the last few years, two reactions have been inevitable. One has been the advice of friends:

"We agree with everything you say, but would it not be wiser to keep a lower profile?" The other has been the recurring line in letters from well-wishers: "I used to go to my local Labour Party, but I got tired of listening to the extremists, so I have stopped going". The Labour Party could have been rescued by leadership prepared to put up a real fight. Roy Jenkins might have managed it if he had become leader. Now it looks increasingly unlikely.

Third, in political terms, the situation is hopeless. We have many of us who feel able to do only just—to campaign on the basis of the 1974 election manifesto would be quite unable to accept a manifesto based on the appalling document

*Labour's Programme* 1976. Our last party conference was probably the most disastrous ever held. Not only did it flatly refuse the economic disciplines essential to cope with our current problems, but it adopted this programme document from which the next manifesto proposals are supposed to be taken. It has very little to say about inflation and nothing at all about incomes policy; it proposes vast increases in public spending on everything except defence, which is to be cut by £1,000m a year; it suggests a new forest of bureaucratic boards and commissions; it seeks to nationalize operating in each of the key sectors of industry and commerce". In addition, there was a separate statement before the conference proposing to nationalize the four biggest

banks and the seven biggest insurance companies. Both documents were approved by the conference on a card vote. The next manifesto can hardly include all of these proposals if only because it could not possibly be included during a five-year session even at the hectic rate at which we now push legislation through Parliament. But Ron Hayward points out in his foreword to the document that "the next manifesto will clearly include a good many of the proposals outlined here, since it will be on the basis of this programme that the manifesto is drawn up".

Where do we go from here?

The Labour Party has already lost a good deal of its support and has deservedly done so

and hang himself in hyperbole; but I am serious in saying that of a melancholy disposition to believe that general, and their particular, is futile, we very unwise indeed to r last page of *Tender Night* with a bottle of pills beside the bed: (other hand, I defy any suffering from once lethargic to turn at page and go to sleep at it much the same as all my aches are vices over spiritual aches Books about this situation can be written by grating personalities like Gerald's, or from a man in *corporis sano*; do you indeed murmur Mencken, but what was it? Well, said Dreiser, out there the locals call it "the Grand Canyon".

I had never, until recently, read any Scott Fitzgerald. I am not sure why; I think I reacted against all that rubbish surrounding his name, composed of Hemingway and booze and Zeldas and whatever the other woman's name was. Often, I had meant to read him; but I had never quite got around to it. ("How often my soul goes to the National Gallery," said Logan Pearson-Smith, "and how seldom I go there myself.") When the film of *The Great Gatsby* came out a year or two ago, my resistance, if anything increased, in proportion to the Scott-and-Zelda rubbish itself. Certainly I had no intention of seeing the film; nor did I. Yet I felt uneasy; too many good judges of these matters had assured me that Fitzgerald was a master for me to be quite sure I was doing something of value. When finally persuaded to break the duck, I was a long feature by Kenneth Tynan in *The Observer* celebrating the book of the film. It was Tynan at his best: redolent with his own enthusiasm and the wish to communicate it, glittering with insights, the whole firmly set in a social and historical context.

Now day, I bought the edition that Penguin had reprinted to coincide with the film; that night I read it. The experience was what I imagine it must be like to be electrocuted; at any rate, I can still feel the shock of coming face to face with concentrated essence of genius in a form until that moment unknown to me. Out there, they call it the Grand Canyon.

It is as easy, as it is to say that Fitzgerald epitomized his own programmatic power as to porcine actuality are singly few. Kenneth Tynan the piece that set me the trail of Fitzgerald gestured that *The Great Gatsby* portrayed America before Fall, and I know exactly he means (though in *Gatsby* there are more than one), and it is innocence, rather than piness, that gives the colour.

The most extraordinary thing about Fitzgerald is the way in which his ability becomes a kind of sleight of hand, convincing us that his pessimism was justified that all life is as empty bottles had been drained. But fact is—and what grim it provides—that the books which convince us their hopelessness is a reflection of reality the proof that his life neither futile nor wasted that his achievement is to endure. I am sure he never became a museum, relegated to the sect which there lie those at who are lost for ever their context finally appears. For Scott Fitzgerald wrote about the heart of and while the heart of struggles against fate, fully or unsuccessfully, the truth or falsehoods provided will alive though not one grain dust from the world in he set them survives.

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sandwiches from noisy bags. The play makes much of a starting pistol and loud explicit language, and the of cordite in the tiny th cannot be good for the digestion.

In a television interview her release on bail last week Miss Hearst said she had forced to take part in the raid. She denounced her captors and described their leader "General Field-Marshal" as an alcoholic, egotistic, raping, murdering, hotheaded maniac.

Tanner's play takes a different view, suggesting Miss Hearst was embroiled in the guerrillas' philosophy time at all.

Having rejected the middle-class values of her parents, Hearst is shown throwing herself into weapon training enthusiasm, and falling over heels, both sexually and intellectually, for the Marshal, who is portrayed not too bad a chap at "Harmin ain't my way", he clares. Tanner's explanation of the bank raid is that it's brainwave, brought on by bottles of wine, to get the attention on television.

Miss Hearst's second trial resumes on April 4, when light may be shed on the bizarre episode. More likely she will still be unable to plain herself, thus leaving plenty of scope for more wrights.

Monday's *sits vac* column of newspaper had an ad: "Gness required. SW1—ries for debt company in Belgo to control team of outside factors." You would have little chance to handle little horrors.

PI

Bernard Levin

# Welcome to the Aspirin Age

Once again, I am in the position of Theodore Dreiser in the story related by Mencken. Dreiser, according to Mencken, had been on a trip to Arizona, and had come back raving about an amazing, an astounding, discovery he had made there, one of the wonders of the world. Why, he demanded, did nobody know about this extraordinary, this unique phenomenon? Why did not people go there as sightseers in their thousands to gaze upon the marvel? Why were not pictures of it published in the newspapers, why were not schoolchildren taught about it, why did not Americans abroad boast to foreigners about it? Why, indeed, murmured Mencken, but what was it? Well, said Dreiser, out there the locals call it "the Grand Canyon".

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## Evans the Organizer will not stand for any nonsense at Transport House

If, as a recent opinion poll suggests, a majority of the population think that Mr Jack Jones is the most powerful man in Britain, then the election of his successor becomes of more than passing interest. As the undisputed ruler of an organization with almost two million members, the general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union has real political power, in the sense that he can see the impact of his views reflected in Cabinet policies. Britain is a different country today for the skilful manner in which Mr Jones has exercised that power, whether you agree with him or not. Contemporary policies have to pay regard to the phenomenon of liaison between unions and government, a factor that can make or break administrations.

Mr Jones will be a hard man to follow. It was he, more than any other individual figure in the Labour movement, who healed the breach created by *Place of Strife*, and laid the foundation for a credible alternative to a government committed too deeply to a policy of curbing the power of the

unions. The liaison machinery established at his suggestion endured through Labour's opposition years and is still an important instrument of power.

The new man—and that will almost certainly be Mr Moss Evans, the union's national organizer—will have to fit into this complex role that combines politics with the traditional business of leading a trade union comprehending a diverse range of industries and services.

He will automatically move into a senior position on the TUC general council, without ever having been a member of it, and on to its key committees, and finally right into the most elite group of all, the TUC's six-man team on the National Economic Development Council, which negotiates directly with the Cabinet on major issues of the day. From the hurly-burly of sorting out disputes in the engineering and motor industries—his special field—he will assume the status of Cabinet minister.

It may sound dismissive to write off all the other candidates at this stage, before the ballot papers have even been distributed, but Mr Moss Evans has a head start over everyone



Mr Moss Evans: the man most likely to succeed Mr Jack Jones.

Judge the candidates by their records. What Mr Moss Evans has said has been uncontroversial. Labour-loyalist stuff. He is not a left-winger, like his rival Mr Alex Kinsella, the executive officer who is also the Labour Party's national executive. He favoured the TGWU nominee. He favoured the present incomes policy, but he does not want pay restraint to become a permanent feature of

industrial relations. He wants to see Labour stay in office, but he would work with a constitutionally-elected Tory government "so long as it stays out of union-busting".

The relative anonymity in which TGWU officials are kept has prompted comments that Mr Evans would not be tough enough that he could not "hold" his executive council, a lay body that meets every

three months and agrees policy between biennial delegate conferences. It is a criticism that is probably wide of the mark. You simply do not get that far in the TGWU without a streak of hardness in your make-up. Mr Evans may like a bit of light Opera, but he will not stand for it in Transport House.

Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

"It could be three times the size and its ingenuity would still be amazing," I marvelled.

Stripped to the bare essentials. No face, even, to hide the intricate golden framework of the movement.

Carved with detail so fine even a Lilliputian would have appreciated its delicacy.

Miniature wheels synchronised in silent motion, turning on ruby bearings held in tiny sockets.

Each moving part is polished first with diamond paste, then with the pith from an elder tree and finally with the softest doeskin cloth.

The skeleton watch I held in my hand cost £4,255. Which made it perhaps one of the most expensive in the world.

It was undeniably one of the most beautiful.



Audemars Piguet

Illustrated brochure and a list of appointed jewellers is available from Audemars Piguet, 71 Saffron Hill, London EC1N 8RS.

## The Times Diary

### Looking back on a rakish life

John Skeaping has been a serious artist for most of his 75 years, yet he is known mainly for his statues of horses—Brigadier Gerard, Mill Reef, Hyperion and others. I asked him yesterday whether he regretted that his reputation should be in this narrow, specialised field.

"Yes, I do," he replied quickly. "I've always liked horses, and, profitably for me, they caught on. I carry on doing them because I have to eat, but it doesn't give me a chance to do other things I want to do—like wood and stone carvings."

Charlie Chaplin always wanted to act Shakespeare and I think people often despise the things he does best. But it is an art and I do try to push it further. I like to think it's more than just a facility for doing it."

It's all different now," he said, sighing. "Things that were just wild in those days are now for dirt's sake. Then the dirt was accidental, though you didn't avoid it if it came along."

"But you wouldn't expect me to carry on like that at my age, anyway. Nowadays, I have to jump out of bed early to feed the chickens or tend the vegetables."

That led him into a passion for British vegetables, which are what he misses most about Britain. That aside, there is little about modern Britain that attracts him.

"It's been joyless here for the past few years," he said. "People have lost the art of living. Ninety per cent of the people earn their living doing something they're not doing, or would rather not do. That isn't so in the South of France."

"They've lost their *je ne sais quoi* here. They did have it when I was a youngster, when the pubs were open all day."

Does he think of today's fashionable art? "People have mistaken inanity for art", he

said, giving as examples Andy Warhol's soup cans and an emerald and orange which he had read, fetched £14,000 at Sotheby's. "Art today is the biggest fraud that has ever been perpetrated on the public", he added for good measure.

But if this gives the impression of a crusty old man looking back nostalgically to the grand old days, it is a false one. He uses the proceeds from his art to sustain an extravagant Mediterranean life-style, including a sailing-boat, which he much enjoys.

"I'm not going to pass this way again and I want to get as much pleasure out of it as I can," he said. "I don't care what people say." It is that spirit which inspires the book.

Black view

The belief that black people are treated unfairly in the British legal system is held with fervour by many people—some who are black and some who are not. A booklet which supports that proposition has been written by Rudy Narayan, a controversial barrister who has defended numerous black people in criminal cases. It consists of short accounts of cases, in most of which Narayan has been involved and which, ironically, have generally resulted in acquittals. Narayan's point is that this is exceptional, the result of a canny defence team breaking through what he regards as

efforts by the prosecution to bend the evidence.

He stresses the importance of getting black people on to juries in cases involving black defendants. He makes observations about the unreliability of "confessions".

The book was launched at a party in Bayswater on Tuesday evening by the publishers, Blackbird Books. In a pungent speech, Narayan said that some black people in prison in this country had been wrongly convicted. Although blacks were only 4 per cent of the population, 12 per cent of people in prison—and 25 per cent of people serving life sentences—were black.

"It is my experience of the police services here in the United Kingdom that they find it easier to win weak cases against black defendants," he said, although he stressed that this applied only to a minority of police officers. He added: "Figures of blacks in prison are sometimes inflated by hostile and prosecution-minded conduct of some trials by certain judges".

Then he turned his attention to the "white media", which he had discovered stories about black crime. "The journalistic vultures are always encircling Brixton and Notting Hill as they look for black news," he said. "The British media, in its highly organized, synchronized and well orchestrated attack



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## A GOOD EUROPEAN SPEECH

is delightful to read Mr Crosland's speech before the European Parliament which initiates his Presidency of the Council of Ministers. It is a speech of intellectual quality; on the first occasion that the United Kingdom has held the Presidency of the Council of Ministers it shows loyalty to the European idea and insight into the character of the European problem. It follows the excellent speeches that Mr Jenkins has made as the new President of the European Commission.

The Foreign Secretary's speech is summed up in this passage: "That, then, is how I see the tasks ahead of us, not just for the next six months, but for the medium term: to improve our sectoral policies; to define and forward convergence in more meaningful terms; to have our proper role for a directly-elected Parliament; to expand yet further the Community's influence in the world; and to put emphasis on the improvement of management of sectoral policies. Unless the European Community is able to reconcile the conflicting interests of its different members without too much friction or breakdown, it will also be unable to develop strong agreed policies in those areas where their interests are not in conflict. He is also right to emphasize the need for convergence. Any advance towards a greater degree of economic union depends on a more equal economic performance. The wide variations of the performance of the various European countries in the 1970s have been

in marked contrast to the more level pattern of the 1960s.

The difficulty is that economic unity depends on convergence, but convergence itself depends on a movement towards economic unity. Mr Crosland does not go far enough in emphasizing the importance of the harmonization of monetary policy, which must be a condition for the harmonization of rates of inflation and for the stabilization of currencies relative to each other. If the growth of Britain's money supply in the early 1970s had been only equal to that of Germany, then the decline in the internal purchasing power and the external price of the pound would have been much less rapid; there is no reason to think that Britain's employment experience would have been worse than in fact it was.

The proper role for a directly elected parliament will primarily be the role which parliament achieves for itself. The elected Members of the European Parliament, representing larger electoral districts than members of the local parliaments, will feel that they have a full democratic authority, and they can be expected to use that authority to develop European policies as well as to represent their constituents' interest. In Britain at least the separation of the dates of European elections from national elections makes it likely that the party which is not in government will do well in the European elections. That would be a potential source of conflict, which would be diminished if European elections were held on a proportional basis. If the Labour Party are still in power in 1978 the non-proportional system of elections could be very damaging to Labour candidates. The Community's influence on

the world has been handicapped partly by past failures to agree on joint policies, and by the desire of different countries to steal a march on each other, and sometimes also by a certain feebleness of approach which has been characteristic of much of the postwar diplomacy of European countries. Since the war the European countries have not felt themselves to be in a strong position; they have sometimes responded by bluffing and sometimes by underestimating the power which in fact they possess.

The point that Mr Crosland makes about enlargement, that it is "an investment in the democratic future of Europe", is of the greatest importance. The democratic character of the European Community has helped to preserve democracy in Italy. Only a few years ago Spain, Portugal and Greece were all dictatorships. They are now all democracies or well on the road to democratic constitutions. When we see countries lost to freedom, this gain for freedom of three countries in Southern Europe is a matter of great advantage and helps to counter the fear that freedom and democracy are in decline in the world.

The European Community has been damaged by the reluctance and exaggerated caution of the Labour Government in responding to Europe. A Labour Foreign Secretary is therefore in a special position, which no Conservative Foreign Secretary could enjoy, in being able to offer reassurance about Britain's future attitude to European affairs. This makes Mr Crosland's speech not only an excellent one but a major one. It is a sound draft for Britain's future attitude towards Europe and a sound draft for the future development of the Community.

## A COWARDLY DECISION

The exact circumstances surrounding the arrest and subsequent release of Mr Abu Daoud from French custody into Algerian freedom are still blurred, and there are contradictory versions of virtually every episode in the sequence of events. What is clear, however, is that a specially and hastily convened French court-sitting, contrary to practice, in camera, rejected both a Bavarian arrest warrant and an Israeli application for Mr Daoud's continued detention, made under a Franco-Israeli extradition treaty.

The reasons given by the Court, though they may be plausible on narrow legalistic grounds, cannot be accepted as genuine in the political context of the case. The magistrate ruled, on the Bavarian warrant, that it was invalid because the name mentioned on it did not correspond with the name under which Mr Daoud appeared in court. Since it was widely known, certainly to the French authorities, that Mr Daoud had entered France under a false name and passport, the failure of his real and false identities to coincide was hardly surprising, and it can scarcely be believed that that discrepancy, so easily explicable, could become a ground for his

release. The magistrate also used as a reason the fact that no formal confirmation of an extradition request had been received from the West German authorities, although there had been a telegram making such a request unofficially. As only three days had elapsed, and as it was known (or could have been easily ascertained) that the Federal Government were in the process of deciding on what steps to take, that reason, too, cannot be given much credence.

The Israeli request was made under an agreement which, in practice, has acted up to now to the benefit of the French. It was not a formal extradition demand, but a request, under Article 10 of the extradition treaty between the two countries, that Mr Daoud be held in detention for a period of 60 days in order to give time for the preparation of the official extradition request. The magistrate ruled that French law did not recognize Israeli jurisdiction over crimes committed in a third country, namely the Munich massacre. It is at least arguable that that is not a correct conclusion under French law. Even if it is, however, it is a decision which fell to be made when the formal extradition demand was received, not at the preliminary stage which was as far as the

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## THE PROCESS OF URBAN DECAY

Three teams of planning consultants produced the three reports on urban decay published yesterday. Their striking similarity of tone no doubt has some connexion with the fact that they have all been "guided in their researches" by Mr Freeson, the Minister for Housing and Construction. When introducing the reports yesterday, Mr Freeson gave a lively demonstration of the ministerial art of expressing enthusiasm without making any distinct commitments. The state of public policy, not to mention that of the public finances, made it difficult for him to do very much more. All is in the air on housing and planning policy, and all three reports declare emphatically that reclaiming deprived city areas must be

one school of thought holds that reclamation will indeed be so expensive that the process of decline should simply be accepted. To rehouse a family in Lambeth or Liverpool can cost three times as much as providing a new house outside the conurbation. The disappearance from the centre of small-scale manufacturing industries and of inhabitants grown tired of dirt and noise are plainly signs of one of those profound social trends that it is futile simply

to resist. Fashions in planning tend to swing about, and it would be wrong to allow concern at the problems caused by the flight from the cities to obscure the fact that the cities are still fundamentally too crowded.

But the penalties of change fall mainly on areas where people cannot help themselves, and where misguided planning and housing policies have often made matters far worse. Such communities cannot be left to disintegrate. It is small comfort to unemployed, unskilled workers in Small Heath or Stockwell that jobs are to be had in offices. Work in peripheral industrial estates is little use to people confined by administrative rigidity to council flats in the centre. A programme of action must take account of immediate hardships as well as of long-term prospects.

The three reports see the problems of such areas not principally in terms of physical accommodation, as they often have been in the past, but in a wider economic context. Unemployment, poor communications and amenities all need to be treated, with housing, as aspects of one problem, impossible to solve by piecemeal methods. All three reports make unemployment their first priority, and rightly give great emphasis to training and retrain-

ing, to make people less dependent on the kinds of employment which are in decline. Perhaps more nostalgically, the Liverpool and Birmingham studies pin their hopes to a revival of manufacturing industry secured through subsidies.

All three reports show a considerable suspicion of the existing administrative machinery—that of public housing departments in particular, but also of national and local government in general. The complaint that separate departments and remote committees cannot cope with the complex problems of inner city areas has often been made. Two years ago the Home Office set up a programme intended to coordinate such activities and work close to the communities involved. It is still at an embryonic stage, however, waiting, like so much else in the field of planning, for Mr Shore to give a lead. The Liverpool study's mistrust of local government is such that it proposes specific government grants so that councils cannot divert aid to other purposes. Not least among the problems of deprived urban areas is the feeling that they are on the edge of official attention, and that whatever the powers that be ordain will take little account of local feelings and hopes.

Union. Purges affected every sector of Ukrainian life and well over 100 persons—mostly young writers, artists and scholars—were arrested and sentenced to inhumanly severe terms of imprisonment and exile. Many of these—Chernovil, Svitlichny, Swerstyuk, Plakhomyuk, Krasnivsky, Shabatura, Gluzman—are well known in the West.

In the West the importance of the national movements in the USSR, which are an integral and vital factor in the struggle for basic civil and political liberties in the USSR, seldom receive the amount of attention that they deserve. The fact that Russification has been elevated to the level of state policy indicates

the Soviet authorities' lack of sensitivity and tact in dealing with this serious problem.

Considering that many of those currently imprisoned in the USSR were persecuted for defending their national cultures and languages, the least that can be done in the West is to ensure that the difference between Russia proper and the Soviet Union is understood, and that the two terms are not used interchangeably.

Yours sincerely,  
RAYMOND WACKS,  
Department of Management and  
Social Sciences,  
Oxford Polytechnic,  
Headington,  
Oxford.

BOHDAN NARAYOLO  
January 7

## Release by France of Abu Daoud

From Mr Lionel Bloch

Sir, The release of the Black September Leader Abu Daoud by a Paris court must cause deep concern to everyone interested in the proper administration of justice. When the rule of terror appears stronger than the rule of law, one has to look beyond the Elysée's short-sighted conception of *raison d'état*.

The following facts are particularly relevant in this instance:

1 The extradition treaty between Israel and France was ratified on November 14, 1971—some 10 months before the Munich murders.

Article 23 explicitly states that the treaty would apply to crimes committed before it came into force. In accordance with these terms, Israel requested the French police on January 10 to hold Abu Daoud in temporary detention and enclosed with its request a Detention Order issued by a Jerusalem magistrate.

2 Contrary to certain French attempts to belittle the issue, the amendment of the Israeli Criminal Code conferring jurisdiction on Israeli courts for trying terrorists guilty of attacking its citizens abroad, became effective as from March 28, 1972—well before the Munich massacre.

3 Article 55 of the French Constitution of 1958 provided that if there is a conflict between French legislation and an international convention to which France is a party, then the convention prevails.

4 According to the French Statute of March 10, 1972, all extradition hearings are to be held in public unless special circumstances make it validly pleaded. The Abu Daoud hearing was behind closed doors and no explanation for that exceptional procedure has been forthcoming.

5 It is accepted international practice to inform a state applying for the extradition of a wanted person of all relevant legal proceedings involving such person. The French authorities failed to inform Israel of the messy hearing that led to Abu Daoud's release.

6 France signed the European Convention to outlaw terrorism on November 10, 1976. Although this Convention has not yet come into effect, it provides that the use of automatic weapons and explosives or the seizing of hostages shall not be regarded as political crimes, and that there is an obligation to extradite those accused of committing such crimes.

Some French Ministers have shown recently contempt for legal niceties, to a point where the Minister of Justice had to administer a public rebuff to his colleague Prince Poniatowski for prejudging certain people in connexion with the Broggi murder. In the Abu Daoud case, disregard for due legal process has reached unprecedented heights.

The release amounted to a travesty of legal process, to a flagrant breach of France's international treaties and a serious setback to the efforts of the international community to curb terrorism.

The French Government stands condemned for an action which seemed inconceivable, at least since the Dealey兹 affair.

Yours faithfully,  
LIONEL BLOCH,  
9 Wimpole Street, W1.

## Press Council rulings

From Mr Raymond Wacks

Sir, It is less with the substance of the court's decision, although ostensibly based on legal grounds, was taken for political reasons, to rid the French government of an embarrassing presence, when in the throes of a policy of closer economic co-operation with the Arab states as evidenced by the huge new arms deal with Egypt. The cowardly and shameful decision is an insult not only to Israel and West Germany. It has done a disservice to the entire international community, and has made the fight against terrorism that much more difficult.

The government's pusillanimous approach has also offended against its own system of justice.

The only realistic conclusion which the facts will bear is that the court's decision, although ostensibly based on legal grounds, was taken for political reasons, to rid the French government of an embarrassing presence, when in the throes of a policy of closer economic co-operation with the Arab states as evidenced by the huge new arms deal with Egypt. The cowardly and shameful decision is an insult not only to Israel and West Germany. It has done a disservice to the entire international community, and has made the fight against terrorism that much more difficult.

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## COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM, January 12.—The Prince of Wales attended a charity function in aid of the Prince's Trust at the Lakeside Country Club, Finsbury Green, Surrey.

A memorial service for Admiral Sir Eric Holland-Martin will be held in Worcester Cathedral on Friday, January 21, at 2.30 p.m.

### Birthdays today

Professor Sir Melville Arnott, 68; Sir C. Benson, 73; Baroness Brooke of Ystradfellte, 69; Lord Catto, 54; Sir Neil Fincham, 66; Sir Percy Rugg, 71; Sir Frederick Sellers, 84; Dr Solomon Wand, 73.

### Christening

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hambleton was christened Clementine, on the eve of Rev. Peter Myer, at the Church of St. Mary, The Boltons, on Wednesday, January 12. The godparents are the Marquess of Harrington, Lord Irwin, Mr. Oliver Bellamy, Miss Joanne Hambleton, Lady Ramsay, the Hon. Mr. George Lopes and Mrs. David Bowes Lynd.

### Luncheon

Junior Carlton Club Members of the political council of the Junior Carlton Club entertained Mr. Horace Cutler, Leader of the Opposition, Greater London Council, at luncheon yesterday. Mr. Cyril Norton, chairman of the political council, presided.

### Dinner

The Law Society's commerce and industry group held their annual dinner at the Law Society's Hall yesterday evening. The chairman of the group, Mr. M. J. Fine, presided, and the guest speaker was Mr. John Methven, Director-General of the CBI. Other guests included:

The chairman of the Law Society, and Mrs. Nancy, the vice-president, and general secretary of the Association of the Bar, the Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry

### Reception

Mrs. M. Ure-Hamilton and Mrs. M. Morris Ure-Hamilton held a reception in the Middle Temple Hall yesterday on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their marriage. Among the guests were:

Lord and Lady Balfour, Mr. Maurice Balfour, the Librarian Ambassador and QC; and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Sir Edward Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Noel Farno, Mr. Eric Freeman, MP, QC; and Mrs. Gofford, the Recorder of London; Mr. Brian Murphy, and Mrs. Marion, Lord Justice and Lady Justice; Lord Justice and Lady Justice; Mr. Jeremy Thorpe, MP, and Lady Weston.

### Today's engagements

Princess Margaret opens St. John Ambulance County Headquarters, Stafford, 11.35; opens Sports Centre, Friary Grange, Lichfield, 3; as patron, St. John Ambulance, 10.30; for Misericordia Trust, Jolliffe Restaurant, Stoke-on-Trent, 8.15.

Exhibition: "Zofyan," examining artist's career, National Portrait Gallery, annexe, Carlton House Terrace, 10.30.

Exhibition: Reproductions of Japanese prints 1700-1900, Arts Council Shop, 28 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, 10.30.

Bedford School

The Easter Term began yesterday with 1,070 boys in the school. C. A. Harvey is head of the school. C. N. S. Simfeld, captain of boats and J. A. Holman, captain of hockey. Confirmation will be on February 20. Rev. H. M. Moss will be performed in the Great Hall on Sunday, March 12. Term ends on Tuesday, March 22.

**£250,000 for cathedral**

A quarter of a million pounds has been received or promised towards the £1m appeal for the preservation of the west front of Wells Cathedral.

### Church news

Appointments

The Rev. N. H. Sevan, Vicar of Weston-super-Mare, with the Church of St. Edmund, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton.

The Rev. H. E. Earwaker, curate of St. Helen's, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton and Galashaw, same diocese.

The Rev. R. N. Oliver, Vicar of St. Clement with St. Mary, in the parish of St. Mary, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton and Galashaw, same diocese.

The Rev. R. H. Piper, Vicar of St. Peter's, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton and Galashaw, same diocese.

The Rev. J. H. Pipkin, Vicar of St. Peter's, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton and Galashaw, same diocese.

The Rev. D. A. Davies, Vicar of St. John the Baptist's, Bishop's Stortford, to be Team Vicar at Midsomer Norton and Galashaw, same diocese.

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

### CBI and ICI chiefs give stronger warnings of hostility to union directors

majority report looked like having only one aim in mind, to use the control of British companies as a major addition to the armament of those seeking to change the political face of Britain, and change it for the worse.

If accepted, it would lead rapidly to the end of the market economy as they knew it. The argument was not so much whether increased employee participation was a good thing or not. It was about how best to achieve it.

Sir Rowland Wright, told an American Chamber of Commerce lunch in London that if the recommendations followed the broad lines as "leaked" to the press, they were "calculated to drive us less than a coach and horses through all that we have learnt about democracy over the years".

He suspected that it was not democracy but "power" which was at stake. The granting of power to unions to appoint or elect representatives to boards would specifically "disfranchise" non-union members.

There was a danger he said that while board rooms were now occupied by "highly trained professionals" they might be on the point of being asked to accept a new form of patronage—"giving seats on our boards to people who have the support of trade union organizations, whether or not they have the skills and experience for the very sophisticated process of decision making which now takes place in our board rooms".

The fact that these representatives might be asked to represent their members in the decision making process against the views of shareholder directors, would make it look like collective bargaining.

Sir Rowland said he was in favour of steps being taken to make boards "effectively and more demonstrably accountable



Mr. John Methven: Kenna to trench warfare.



Sir Rowland Wright: Power is at stake.

able", but the way forward was to develop systems, such as that in operation within ICI, without "losing the ability to generate wealth for the community as a whole, which is still our prime responsibility".

Sir Rowland said he was in favour of steps being taken to make boards "effectively and more demonstrably accountable

Industrialists would not stand by and let a piece of transparent power politics ruin British industry, said Mr. Methven, who along with Lord Parkinson, the CBI president, and other industrial leaders is preparing to mount one of the largest campaigns against any particular government policy for some years.

Mr. Methven declared that the

CBI leaders thought, Mr. Murray said, that they should postpone until better times what they regard as peripheral experiments in extending industrial democracy.

"It is precisely because of the seriousness of the problems facing us which have been in large measure caused by obsolete management attitudes and practices that a radically new approach to the formulation of industrial policy is required".

It was time some "long outdated concepts" such as the legal identification of company

interests exclusively with shareholder interests were challenged.

The benefits to management of carrying out their function within an agreed framework of policy that has the commitment of the trade unions would, to my mind, be enormous", Mr. Murray said.

"They would find that, while unions are understandably loth to accept responsibility for other people's decisions, they are fully prepared to shoulder responsibility for genuine joint decisions."

**Murray call for equal partnership**

By Tim Jones

Mr. Len Murray, general secretary of the Trade Union Congress, yesterday called for a radically new approach to Britain's industrial policy which could make workers equal partners with their bosses.

The Confederation of British Industry, he said, seemed to think that because of the country's economic troubles it was more imperative than ever to safeguard such managerial prerogatives as decision-making on investment, manpower and product development.

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unions are understandably loth to accept responsibility for other people's decisions, they

are fully prepared to shoulder responsibility for genuine joint decisions."

**Plea on inflation accounting**

By Richard Allen

Mr. Nicholas Goodison, the took Exchange chairman, is calling all listed companies to start preparing for the adoption of current cost accounting without delay.

In a letter to company chairmen he advises them to prepare internal systems to enable adoption of an accounting system along the lines of Exposure Draft 18, published by the Morpeth Committee last year.

Meanwhile, companies are encouraged to make any comments on ED18 to the Inflation Accounting Steering Group without delay and to start preparing supplementary accounts in a current cost accounting basis for publication with the annual report.

Companies unable to produce these figures in time for the next published accounts are urged to include estimates of cost of sales adjustments, asset value and depreciation and current purchasing power adjustments to net monetary assets or liabilities.

**Metro-Cammell challenge to Leyland bus market**

By Our Northern Industrial Correspondent

Metro-Cammell Weymann, the Birmingham-based engineering company, is to challenge British Leyland's dominance of the double-decker bus market with an all-British product.

The company, part of the Laird group, at present builds railway rolling stock and bus bodies.

Leyland's failure to meet the needs of passenger transport authorities—there is a 24-year waiting list—has been much criticized for opening the door to overseas competitors such as Volvo and Scania, of Sweden, who import components for assembly in this country.

Smaller British truck manufacturers such as Foden and Dennis have also produced prototype buses for testing by Passenger Transport Executives.

But MCW's entry is the most significant yet. It already has capacity for building 600 bodies a year. By buying engines from Gardner at Manchester, axles and gearboxes from GKN and

chassis members from Rockwell, Wolverhampton, it plans to produce 600 complete bodies a year and could expand this to 1,500.

The total British market is some 2,000 double deckers a year, to it is apparent that MCW has the potential to become a substantial competitor for the state-controlled motor group.

The first five of the new buses to be known as the Metrobus—have already been ordered by the West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive.

With a fleet of 2,600 buses the West Midlands is one of the largest PTEs in the country.

Yesterday Mr. Fred Lloyd, the WMPTE's chief executive, said he was impressed with the design of the new bus, particularly in use of Gardner engines, which had long been a byword in the transport industry for economy and reliability.

He also hoped that the automatic gearbox in the Metrobus would solve one of his biggest problems, the weakness of Leyland gearboxes.

**Dubilier**

1976 1975  
Sales £6,300,000 £5,650,000  
Pre-tax profits £537,000 £515,000  
After-tax profits £253,000 £312,000

- New orders up 28%
- Rising exports
- Strong financial position
- Dividend up 10%

Manufacturers of capacitors, resistors, co-axial connectors, fuses and electronic components.

Dubilier Limited

Chancery Trading Estate, Lamerton Road, Bicester, Oxon OX6 6TU

### Further oil discovery by Burmah off Shetland

By Roger Vielvoye

Burmah Oil Development Ltd (BODL), a subsidiary of the British National Oil Corporation, has made a promising new oil discovery, eight miles north of its Thistle Field, north east of Shetland.

In an announcement yesterday the company said testing of a well in the far north east corner of Block 211/18 had produced 9,100 barrels a day from a 40ft productive zone in middle Jurassic sands.

It added there appeared to be substantial additional productive sand that would be tested later in the spring by re-entering the well or by drilling a new well on another part of the structure. Some of the worst weather in the North Sea for 14 years prevented the completion of the test programme.

The new structure extends into adjoining acreage held by the Shell/Essoc Group and the Conoco/Gulf/BNOC consortium, who contributed the cost of the well.

Phillips well abandoned: Oil Exploration Holdings said yesterday that an exploration well, drilled by the Phillips Petroleum Group in the British sector of the North Sea, had been plugged and abandoned as a dry hole.

The drilling rig will move to another exploration well, about three miles north of the successful Thistle well in the same block.

Irish Shell drilling: Marine Drilling SA, a joint venture of the Royal Dutch Shell Group and Sedco, yesterday concluded an agreement with the Irish Shell petroleum development company, Tendraco, for carrying out this year's drilling programme of the Shell/Agip group in the Portupine Trough off the west coast of Ireland.

Drilling will start in early April, using the deep floating platform Sedco 707.

### Bill to raise ECGD's loans limit

By David Blake

A 37 per cent increase in the amount of credit up to £25,000m, with provision for further increases to £40,000m, which the Government-backed Export Credit Guarantee Department can give is proposed in a Government Bill published yesterday. It would also allow the ECGD to take on foreign currency commitments of up to 10,000 million special drawing rights (\$11,500m) to

The increased limits on sterling drawings are made necessary, above all, by the effect of inflation on British exports. Present rules limit the amount in sterling which the ECGD can guarantee to £18,200m, which could be increased to £21,200m with parliamentary approval.

Under the new scheme, the initial limit will be £25,000m, but this could be raised to £40,000m if Parliament does not object.

The ECGD has given backing to £202m loan, its biggest ever. The loan, is being provided by Lloyds Bank International, will go to the Dubai Aluminium Company. It will help finance a £341m contract awarded to British Smelter Constructors for building an aluminium smelter complex in Dubai. The previous biggest ECGD-backed loan, worth £152m, was for financing a PVC plant in Poland.

Mr. Layton said he hoped

### Massey likely to make court move to win tractor plant from pickets

By Clifford Webb

With losses already in excess of £16m, Massey Ferguson is believed to be contemplating legal action to obtain possession of their Coventry tractor plant from strike pickets who have occupied it for the past 23 days.

It would be the second time in 20 months that the Canadian-owned company has resorted to the courts to end worker-occupation. In May and June 1975 management was shut out for six weeks before the courts intervened.

Union officials admitted last night that they were embarrassed by the extreme actions of some pickets acting under instruction from a militant strike committee.

The three unions involved

are the Transport & General Workers, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Sheet Metal Workers.

Pickets have closed the factory gates and occupied the main production areas together with the ground floor of the office block which normally houses the company's European headquarters staff. Since January 4 no staff has been permitted into the building.

Temporary accommodation has been found in other offices on the site. However, many office workers are experiencing considerable difficulty in parking their cars because pickets have closed the company car parks.

A full-time union official said last night: "We have reason to believe that the company will repeat their 1975 tactic

and obtain a court order to restrain the pickets."

The company refuses to comment on possible court action; but with losses increasing daily at the rate of £1.8m and no signs of a breakthrough in the deadlock, Massey appears to have no other course open to it.

The strike began on December 22 when all 1,150 assembly workers walked out in protest at a management decision to withhold pay from 136 of their colleagues for not working hard enough. A further 2,196 employees have been laid off.

There has been a series of "busfire" disputes at the plant since April when Massey introduced a new family of sound-proofed tractors and began protracted negotiations to agree new piecework rates and manning standards.

**Tougher replacement seen for prices body**

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

Replacement of the Price Commission next summer by a new body having wider powers, particularly in adjudicating on the cost-effectiveness of companies, is being considered by the Government. It could revive many facets of the old Prices and Incomes Board.

Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, is understood to have prepared an initial discussion document looking at the various options for a continuation of price restraint when the present price code's life ends on July 31.

Delayed discussions on the future of price restraint have still to be held with the TUC, the Confederation of British Industry, the Retail Consortium and other interested bodies.

These are expected to be held within the next few weeks, after which a fully-pledged consultative document will be put out by Mr. Hattersley.

A major option in the initial discussion document is understood to extend its 6.2m share offer for Sheffield hand-tool maker, Spear & Jackson International, has drawn attention in its latest offer document to the size and timing of a service contract recently arranged for Mr. Leonard Grosbard, S & J's managing director.

Hattersley has extended its offer in this bitter fought takeover until January 24, but has closed the cash alternative.

It is not clear whether the new body would also look at questions of cost-effectiveness in the nationalized industries, which the TUC would probably strongly oppose.

At present the Price Commission's powers over the nationalized industries are limited. Sir Arthur Cockfield, the Commission chairman, has in the past been at pains to point out that it does not control such prices but that they are the responsibility of the minister concerned.

Nationalized industries are entitled to make a forward projection of their losses and then increase prices substantially to cover these and make a profit of 2 per cent of turnover or 10 per cent of capital employed by the end of the year.

In membership the new body would probably be made up of the TUC, the CBI, other sector bodies, including the Retail Consortium, and a considerable weighting of legal, accounting and academic economists.

Mr. Hattersley has already made clear that he wants to scrap the present price code structure and replace it with something more flexible. One possibility would be to operate an honour system under which companies would be expected not to put through excessive increases.

Alternatively, big companies could be required to notify scales of price increases thus affording the adjudication body and the rest of industry a benchmark.

Derek Harris

### Shipbuilders put subsidy proposal to Mr Varley

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Introduction of a subsidy scheme to promote a flow of orders from British shipyards to United Kingdom shipyards was urged yesterday on Mr. Varley, Secretary of State for Industry by leaders of Britain's shipbuilding industry.

A number of owners are known to be considering ordering new tonnage and shipbuilders argue that they must be persuaded and cajoled to build at home rather than overseas.

The SRNA team suggested

that consideration should be given to advancing some de-

preciation on outstanding defence contracts for the Royal Navy unaffected by defence cuts and giving urgent consideration to the extent to which British shipowners might be encouraged to place orders.

A number of owners are known to be considering ordering new tonnage and shipbuilders argue that they must be persuaded and cajoled to build at home rather than overseas.

One possibility outlined by the SRNA team was an investment grant scheme similar to that adopted by the Dutch government recently, with EEC approval, under which owners can receive grants of up to 23 per cent of the contract price of a ship payable over a five-year period.

### £43m support scheme for data processing

By Kenneth Owen

Despite "formidable challenges" from the United States and Japan, Europe has moved its centre of gravity into the high-technology and capital-intensive industries, a senior European Commission executive said in London yesterday.

Mr. Christopher Layton, head of the Commission's Directorate responsible for the electronics, telecommunications and aerospace industries, was explaining the reasons for the Commission's proposals for a £43m four-year programme of financial support for the European data processing industry.

Mr. Layton said he hoped

this programme would achieve basic political agreement within the next six months.

## Shaikh Yamani predicts a gradual shift in Opec's pricing pattern

Beirut, Jan 13.—Crude oil prices are bound to go up this month, but will decrease gradually later to \$12.90 (57.50) a barrel, Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Minister of Petroleum said in an interview today.

Shaikh Yamani told *Al Hawadeth*, a Beirut magazine, that the two-step 15 per cent rise decreed by 11 of the 13 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries had created "price differences".

Opec pricing was based on Saudi Arabia's "Arabian light," which sold at \$15.51 a barrel until January 1, when the increase went into effect.

Prices of other grades of crude are calculated relative to

No one knows precisely what prices they have set for their crude grades. In January, they have raised the price of the Saudi crude by 10 per cent, but they have not specifically touched on their own oil. Therefore, it is expected that there will be differences in prices among the 11 countries," he said.

"I believe that prices will go

up by more than 5 per cent during January, then prices will begin to go down gradually to the level we set," Shaikh Yamani told *Al Hawadeth*.

Saudi Arabia's daily production rate of 3.5 million barrels is to be raised to 10 million he said.

"The Saudi position will clarify the oil picture and add a tinge of moderation and responsibility to Opec. This, I believe, will be a factor of strength for Opec."

He praised Indonesia for backing out of Opec's decision by limiting its price increase to 5 per cent.

"Indonesia has acted realistically. It could not have acted otherwise. If it were to stick to the 10 per cent hike, then it would not have found markets for its oil."

Shaikh Yamani predicted a decrease in Saudi production "when the price situation is clarified and returns to normal."

He dismissed as "wishful thinking" alleged speculation that he would quit his ministry and be named ambassador to an unspecified country.

In another interview *Al*

*Hawadeth* quoted Mr Frank Junger, chairman of the Arabian-American Oil Company (Aramco), as saying that market conditions will force Opec members to limit their price increase to 5 per cent.

"Initially, consumers will prefer buying the cheaper oil and avoid the more expensive. This means that countries which increased their oil prices by 10 per cent will have to reduce their prices in order to avoid losing their markets," said Mr Junger.

He said Aramco's potential production capacity was "well above 11 million barrels" a day.

Kuwait: Shaikh Yamani arrived in Abu Dhabi today for consultation with the local oil minister and press reports that some oil-producing states are urging a fresh Opec conference to review oil prices—AP-Dow Jones.

Talks on embargoes: British Petroleum and the Gulf Oil Corporation have held inconclusive talks in Kuwait with the Kuwaiti oil minister on their request to reduce contracted oil purchases, Reuter reports, quoting informed sources.

## Bonn threatens EEC stand on shipbuilding

From David Cross Brussels, Jan 13

The European Commission is pressing on with its preparation of measures to shield the EEC's shipbuilding industry against Japanese competition in the wake of this week's failure in Paris to work out an orderly share-out of dwindling orders.

But its work is being overshadowed by West German and Danish reluctance to the introduction of support measures. Any action would have to be taken by member governments on the basis of Commission proposals.

Commencing on this week's largely abortive shipbuilding talks within the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Signor Costantino Fazio, the Community's negotiator in Paris, said the next round of OECD shipbuilding talks planned for February 8 and 9 would "verify once and for all if the Japanese are sensitive to a problem which has important political ramifications".

The Community is seeking agreement by the Japanese to a 50-50 share-out of orders.

Well-informed officials in

Brussels see divisions between the West Germans and the Danes, on the one hand, and the British, French and Italians, on the other, as a threat to possible joint Community action.

Peter Hill writes: Measures to

be discussed by officials of EEC countries next week include

subsidies for shipyards and

shipowners, with the possibility

of longer-term action involving

formulation of a maritime

policy for the Community and

action against Japan on the

basis of the general trade from

Estimates in Brussels indicate

that shipyard support running

to about \$600m a year would be

needed, with possibly between

2 and 3 per cent being funded

through EEC agencies. The

British Government might have

to face a subsidy bill of £70m-80m a year for its own ship-

yards.

But yesterday the Com-

munity's allegations of Japanese

invasions into the market for new

building last year received a

severe

setback.

With publication of figures

showing that Japan

gained only 45.9 per cent of the

near-2,000 new orders placed

throughout the world.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Part played by free enterprise in United States air fare structure

From Mr L. H. Langley

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr A. J. Burkhardt, (January 10), on the subject of comparing air fares in Europe with those in the United States, has chosen to disregard or is not aware of the most significant factors in the development of lower fares in America. I refer, of course, to competition and free enterprise.

Estimates in Brussels indicate that shipyard support running to about \$600m a year would be needed, with possibly between 2 and 3 per cent being funded through EEC agencies. The

British Government might have to face a subsidy bill of £70m-80m a year for its own ship-

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gained only 45.9 per cent of the

near-2,000 new orders placed

throughout the world.

Yours faithfully,

L. H. Langley,

General Manager—United

Kingdom,

Trans World Airlines,

214 Oxford Street,

London WIN 0HA.

January 10.

From Mr A. J. Lucking

Sir, Mr Burkhardt criticizes your

Air Correspondent's compari-

sons of United States and Euro-

pean air fares. But one aspect of

the United States air fare

structure from which we might

learn is that an intensive five-

year investigation there has

resulted in a move towards

"cost-based" charges. I and

others believe that this is one of

the reforms needed in E

the current "market pr

for carrier, and latterly—and of

most importance—elimination of the need to reduce fares.

Following the world fuel

crisis, capacity agreements have

become more fashionable. The

most significant factor remains, how-

ever, that academics juggling

with figures of population, etc

form no substitute for free

enterprise and open competi-

tion—if the customer is to

benefit—and this applies equally, I believe, to all forms

of transport.

Yours faithfully,

A. J. Lucking,

17, Broad Court,

Bow Street,

London, WC1.

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Bow Street,

London, WC1.

Phone rentals and the old

From Mr William Worthy

Sir, I note in your fax

pages a forecast of inc

Post Office telephone pro

If any reductions in cl

are to be considered, I

plead for a reduction in

rather than call charges.

The numbers of the

who are often lonely and

infirm, are a

increasing, and it would n

for them to and to their f

and relations, if they

afford to have a tele

installed, or afford to me

one where it is already ins

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM WORTHY,

9 Old Barn Lane,

Crookley Green,

Rickmansworth,

Hertfordshire.

No miracle?

From Mr Stephen Schattmann

Sir, New Year resolutions

surprisingly, have gone o

in fashion. But could you

make one, please: no long

use the term "German econ

miracle"—as you did r

page 17 "German econ

miracle" questioned by unit

Why? Because there never

a "miracle". The expul

his

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Gilt sales squeeze the money system



Lord Aberconway, chairman of English China Clays : export prices raised again.

With Murphy, the mining and contracting business, at last returning to profit in the United Kingdom—though problems continue in the German subsidiary—and a sharp reduction in losses at Humphries Holdings, the film processor, BET is very near to firing on all cylinders.

Meanwhile, Bowring & Paul, the joinery subsidiary has had a good deal of success filling gaps in home orders with export projects and United Transport has so far not suffered unduly from the political turmoil in Africa.

But since BET is unable to recover tax losses from its troubled Rediffusion subsidiary in Hongkong there is an unusually high tax charge of 60 per cent which cuts attributable earnings by improvement to 9 per cent at 57.5 per cent.

However, with the help of relief on past losses at Murphy, the final tax charge could be reduced to perhaps 55 per cent on possible pre-tax profits of up to £53m against £42m last time and 1973-74's record £46m.

The snag of course is that something like an eighth of attributable earnings are contributed by the passenger transport and road haulage interest in Rhodesia. Without these the prospective p/e ratio would rise from around 6.5 to just under 8 after yesterday's 2% gain in the shares to 78p at which level the shares are solidly underpinned by a potential yield of 10 per cent.

Interim : 1976-77 (1975-76)  
Capitalization £112m  
Sales £233m (£206m)  
Pre-tax profits £24.4m (£19.6m)  
Dividend gross 2.37p (2.15p)

### China Clays

### Maintaining momentum

English China Clays' first half momentum has been more than maintained in the second half to give a full year profit increase of 43 per cent to £24.5m, well to the top end of outside projections.

European demand for clays has been reviving well, two price increases totalling 17% per cent have been introduced in the home market and overall production was up from 2.7m to 2.25m tons. ECC's practice of invoicing predominantly in depreciating sterling has also been winning a few friends despite the 12 per cent price rise a year ago.

For the year the prospects are equally bright. Export prices have just been raised by an average of another 15 per cent and demand is again firm and rivalry from American producers in diminishing in line with recovery in that market. Both volume and margins should thus be improving and the threat from Brazilian clays is looking more than ever overdone now that the first shipment, apparently of dubious quality, has arrived in Europe.

The problems for ECC this year are clearly going to be the quarrying, building and transport operations, which accounted for a third of profit last year.

Roadbuilding and housing are both going to be under severe pressure, and the only question is the extent to which a downturn from both will detract from the buoyancy of clays. Overall, ECC should still be good for 15 per cent growth this year, in which case the historic p/e ratio of 6.2 drops by more than a point with the shares at 74p. That is a modest enough rating although the yield of 5 per cent is not much help.

Final : 1975-76 (1974-75)  
Capitalization £14.1m  
Sales, £72.3m (£53.9m)  
Pre-tax profits £4.48m (£4.07m)  
Dividend gross 1.946p (1.769p)

### J B Eastwood

### Opening up new markets

J. B. Eastwood's efforts to even out the cyclical earnings pattern take less credit for another sharp improvement in profits this year than the buoyant market for broilers.

Eastwood has cut production costs by modernizing broiler and egg production, and has opened up new markets for white meat overseas, markets that could eventually act as a safety valve in the event of over production at home—the cause of profit slumps in 1972 and 1975.

But export sales outside the EEC account for only around 3 per cent of turnover at the moment, and, while processing cost savings clearly help margins, feed costs and the level of home demand remain the key factors in determining profits.

With pre-tax profits of £4.48m under its belt at the half year and third quarter results indicating nine-month profits of more than the £7m profit achieved for the whole of 1975-76, Eastwood looks well on the way to full year's profits of around £53m. On that basis the shares, up 3p to 59p yesterday, stand at a prospective p/e ratio of just over 3 with a prospective yield of 9.9 per cent, a rating that fully discounts Eastwood's volatile record.

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Sales, £72.3m (£53.9m)  
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Dividend gross 1.946p (1.769p)

### BET

### A record in sight

British Electric Traction's promise of return to record profits this year after two patchy financial periods now looks comfortably within reach. The 24 per cent improvement over last year is considerably steeper than half more than consolidates the recovery of the previous six months and largely reflects tighter contributions from both Rediffusion TV and Advance Laundry.

Dividend gross 3.75p (3.41p)

## Business Diary: With portfolio • Denton's NatWest niche

My peer is giving way to our peer-to-be as Lord Drumalbyn retires from the chairmanship of the Advertising Standards Authority to be succeeded by George Thomson, himself fresh from handing over his regional policy commissionership in Brussels to Antonio Giolitti.

Thomson, who was granted a sabbatical in the new year, has yet to take his seat and will take over at the ASA March 31 for three years. The authority is the industry's self-regulatory body and by chance one of the things it has on its plate this year is a draft EEC directive which has cast some doubt on the future of voluntary controls.

A review is also to be held of the ASA's code of practice on cigarette advertising, which is in the Labour Party's hands. It would like to see stopped together.

Lord Drumalbyn told Business Diary's Ross Davies yesterday that he had declined a rather three-year term because "Amo Domum" (he is 69) returned to the job in 1974 after the defeat of the Tory government in which he had been minister without portfolio.

Previously he had been chairman between 1965, when the authority was setting up, and the general election in 1970.

He has spent much of his life since 1974, when Labour came in, building up the more festive complaints and advertising system that is the price of continued self-governance.

### Railheads

Peter Keen, who has done much to speed up rail travel, is to head British Rail's passenger

management. His appointment to the new post of chief passenger manager will be announced in a few days' time.

Keen came to British Rail from London Transport. He devised the plan to win back passengers to the railways with high speed trains, did the initial planning of freightliners and, less productively in the end, produced a scheme for British Rail's use of the Channel Tunnel.

He is now assistant general manager of the Southern Region.

The appointment will come as a relief to the lower tiers of British Rail headquarters passenger management, who were worried about the impending reorganization. Keen, unlike some of his colleagues, never brings his subordinates with him to a new job.

It is also expected that another Southern Region man, deputy general manager Frank Paterson, is to become chief freight manager.

### Jim fixed it

Jim Venus, the man who put the north Devon shipyard of Appledore Shipbuilders on the world map with the construction of a covered shipbuilding hall, has been ordered to take things easier—that is, relinquish his chairmanship of Sunderland Shipbuilders and other group directorships.

A serious illness last year has set back his business career, and his job involves a lot of travel. A likable and professional shipbuilder who made his way up to the boardroom from a craft apprenticeship at a yard in his native North-east, Venus did as much as anybody to put

Sunderland Shipbuilders' Jim Venus : covered yard concept

nationalized state shipbuilding organization. Nevertheless, he will continue as chairman of Appledore. He will be succeeded as chairman of Sunderland Shipbuilders by Jim Gilligan, who will remain the company's managing director and chief executive.

### Checkmates

Armand Hammer, who paid a warm tribute to the late Roy Thomson at the inauguration of his new oil terminal at Scapa Flow this week, then described what happened when three millionaires went for lunch.

The octogenarian chairman of Occidental Oil Hammer was a friend both of the former chairman of The Thomson Organisation and of the late Paul Getty, of Getty Oil, partners with him in the Piper Field whose oil will be landed at Scapa Flow.

All three were on a visit to the corridors of power at Whitehall, when lunch was suggested. Hammer did not have any money on him, nor did Lord Thomson, and Getty never carried cash anyway.

They were stumped until the peer turned up a battered credit card, but when the time came to pay the bill the card was found to be out of date. The three were saved from washing up the dishes by a passing acquaintance who picked up the bill.

The social problems of closing yards in an area of high unemployment, prompted the Government to take over both Sunderland Shipbuilders and the Appledore yard, with the result that the covered hall at Sunderland was brought on stream last year.

But for his health Venus

## Can the Prime Minister add impetus to Britain's industrial strategy?

On the face of it, Mr Callaghan's decision to identify himself more closely with the development of industrial strategy is reminiscent of Sir Harold Wilson when he was Prime Minister. Yet some suggestion is suggested before we all jump to any conclusions.

Something more fundamental may be planned, probably based on the recent unprecedented collaboration between the Treasury and the Department of Industry and some realignment of such agencies as the National Economic Development Office and the Price Commission.

Central to any reforms under the personal control of Mr Callaghan, if he is right, will be the revival of industry's confidence in a way that meets the Government's pledge to the International Monetary Fund that there will be an industrial strategy producing "major results" in the medium-term. At the same time, he apparently wants to build confidence in the Treasury and the Bank of England, especially among industrialists and trade unions.

There is no doubt that Mr Callaghan has been deeply impressed by the performance of West Germany industry and, whatever the Bullock Committee on Industrial Democracy may say about particular systems, it is rumoured he has decided views that parts of the German system can be tried in the United Kingdom after proper consultation with big companies. But what generally forgotten is that a review has been in progress about the

effectiveness of the public sector, too.

Some further changes in control of the machinery of government and the structures of certain publicly-owned industries could be on the cards, though the requirement seems to change in a way that impacts directly on fundamental industrial problems.

Both the TUC and the CBI have cooperated willingly in the exploratory work in developing a national industrial strategy based on reforms of selected industries. Indeed, next month Mr Callaghan will take the chair at the National Economic Development Council to give the work a new impetus now starting to better protected.

The work is slow and its effectiveness difficult to measure. The Treasury has done well in trying to understand industry and in accepting overall responsibilities for steering the economy. But the medium-term is the medium-term. At the same time, he apparently wants to

achieve by the end of the year a sounder defence, a more effective import policy, and a more effective industrial democracy.

It is not even idle speculation to wonder if the Treasury may not be involved in another reorganization. The last was shaking the same cocktail with one new ingredient: Mr Alan Lord, ex-industry department. Annexing the still largely independent National Economic Development Council and creating some council of advice (recognising the voice of labour) might be a possible reform, but I doubt if institutionalized expressions of a reforming intent will happen.

Rather the need is to develop and to give even higher priority to specific problems thrown up by both strategic working parties and basic industries, such as textiles and shipbuilding, where disaster looms unless there is effective action.

The way in which a Chrysler situation concentrated Cabinet minds on a specific industrial issue is all very well. But such

reforms of state industries and help industry. The structure and institutions by which it involves industry may need re-examination, if only to confirm their present roles.

If anything the work so far achieved by the sector working parties has thrown up a host of issues which a soundly based government-industry relationship might have anticipated. The Department of Trade's stagnant defence, before the flood of foreign goods, of an imports policy, the Department of Industry's inability to persuade industry to accept the concept of planning agreements and the lingering suspicion about the National Enterprise Board's role, the criticisms of the Export Credits Guarantee Department and the Bank of England, the sustained attack on the system of prices control, and the inter-departmental squabbling (who looks after Bullock, power station equipment, and so on) spring to mind.

It is against this background that the Government, with new obligations overseas, now has to demonstrate that Britain can win exports, will invest, can preserve, the harmonious industrial relations of recent times when troubles are starting to break out anew, and hold the confidence of trade unions as well as middle

managers.

The CBI and the TUC are about to collaborate on exports promotion and are ready to go into negotiations on pay policy, now so vital to productivity. As if this is not enough, the need now is to ensure that the Government

is in a position to relate industrial reforms to its devolution policy. They do not sit well hand in hand.

The neglected European dimension has to be demonstrated, for problems such as unemployment resulting from competitive challenges from outside the Community need more dramatic initiatives.

The Prime Minister has had sufficient time and crises to consider Whitehall's ability to cope. It is now an open secret, for example, that Mr Callaghan has arranged for ministers with separate departmental briefs to coordinate their views and relate any action on industrial democracy to other features of a strategy for regenerating industry.

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Trade unions have been given ready access to Cabinet ministers. What industrialists want is evidence that they count when it comes to their anxieties about a wide range of issues, from personal taxation policies to export services.

It is said that the Prime Minister will be getting out and about British industry in the coming months. Let us hope he listens keenly to what both manufacturers and their work forces.

Ministers get too isolated from industry by the pressures of their work. Sector working parties should also get ministerial access from time to time. An industrial dimension in all areas of Government policy, from housing to education, may yet be achieved if the Prime Minister really believes in the primacy of profitable manufacturing.

Maurice Corma

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent

## A computer programme for Europe

The European Commission's moves towards a policy for the data-processing industry, outlined yesterday in London by Christopher Layton, head of the Commission's directorate for the advanced technology industries, has a double significance.

First, it is looking ahead to the time (the end of 1980 is the target) when national computer procurement preferences in the public sector in member states are due to end.

Secondly, it marks the first significant effort by the Community to provide financial support for genuinely European-based, collaborative computer projects.

In developing its data-processing or "informatics" policy, the European Commission has tried to bring together what is good for computer users and what is good for the indigenous manufacturers.

Almost by definition, what is good for IBM is bad for Europe—not industrially, since the national IBM subsidiaries in such countries as Britain, France, Italy and Sweden are likely to account for over half the total market. And that sector total will exceed the entire informatics market today.

This creates a big opportunity and challenge for European companies.

The giant IBM, which already dominates the market for medium and large processors, the Commission says, is still only beginning to penetrate the mini/micro market.

But a dominant manufacturer in this field can shape, limit and control the market for many different types of terminals and attached peripherals if that manufacturer continues to control the standards, interfaces and software which condition information and communication systems as a whole.

Up to now, the Commission argues, Europe has exerted less influence on international standards in this field than it should have done. The whole thrust of its programme is thus to expand its influence through greater common action.

In particular, it has focused attention on the fast-expanding area of "distributed computing"—the use of groups of inter-connected, smaller machines rather than large, centralized installations. Here, the Commission argues, is the opportunity for really effective European collaboration both for users, in developing new applications of mutual interest, and for European industry.

A first priority here, the Commission believes, should be the development of a common com-

puter language for programming "real time" systems. At present, software conversion costs throughout Europe are estimated at about £400m over five years.

Coordination of public-sector procurement policies (competitive tendering from the end of 1980 coupled with the application of Community standards) would provide an incentive to agree on standards, the Commission says.

Collaboration between public research centres in various countries in the Community has also been proposed by the Commission. Joint studies on database management systems, programming methodology, data security and confidentiality of information are already available.

This creates a big opportunity and challenge for European companies.

One of the most sensitive problems facing the Commission is to transform the present national programme of financial support for indigenous computer industries into a coordinated European effort. On average, the nine member states spent about £76m a year of public money in this way between 1971 and 1975.

Rooted in national markets, manufacturers have found it

difficult to obtain a European-wide return on their investments and have been unable to muster the resources needed to attack all sectors of the market.

The Commission's solution involves both computer users and the industry.

Community funds should provide between 20 and 50 per cent of the cost of collaborative projects put forward by users in at least three member states (or by industrial companies in at least two), the Commission proposes. Such projects would be designed to serve trans-national needs, or to help the industry to penetrate important new markets.

For the software industry, funds would also be available to encourage it to develop "Europe-wide structures and market capabilities". This appears to mean, for example, portable software and software tools developed by consortia of European-based companies (from at least two Community countries).

In the hardware industry, the Commission has identified two areas of financial difficulty: in the renting or leasing of computers; and in the funding of research and development. Funds should be handled



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

stock markets

## A change in sentiment but not in business

avoid travel difficulties.

Unlike equities, gilts started on a firm note and went even further ahead after the deposits news and confirmation that the new short "tap" was a "sell-out". Dealers here seemed less inclined to believe in an immediate MLR reduction, but by the end "shorts" were three-quarters of a point ahead and medium and long dates better by a full point, or more in places.

An added incentive for both markets was an increasing feeling that Monday's trade figures will be to most people's liking. This is in direct contrast to the stance many were taking in the earlier part of the week.

The easing of monetary policy had bank shares to the fore with Barclays leading the way with a rise of 12p to 272p. The other clearers all added 7p to 15p with National Westminster at 22p, Lloyds 22p and Midland 21p.

Some of the discount houses were also in the ascendancy, notably Union 6p to 33p, Gillett Brothers 4p to 185p and Clive 4p to 72p. Other financials in demand included Smith St Aubyn 3p to 63p, Mercury Securities 3p to 95p and Kleinwort Benson 4p to 86p.

The fresh talk of another interest rate cut put some spring into property shares. Among the best were Hammerton 1p to 325p, Great Portland 8p to 209p, MEPC 4p to 55p, Cheshirefield 4p to 155p, Stock Conversion 1p to 165p and Peachey 24p to 48p, and Property Holdings 4p to 22p. News of big export contracts at £43.57.

Midland 3p to 95p and the actual amount of business was limited. Nevertheless, FT Index added more than 12 per cent, down nearly a day of sentiment, and again when summer was over.

Wednesday's new

upturn continues, with the banks up 11p apiece last May

Aircraft this year to 20p. Now CES are 50p, just

23.4m for 1976. This retailing group

David Collins, chairman of the large ambitions reports on

annual statement, "the fall of one-fifth

upswing came in the first half-year

Westland Helicopters completely regained in the

continues. Business soon got

again when summer

was over.

A turnover of £66,000 from the Bank of England's

a turnover up to £1,000m of the banks

£3.5m. Earnings a dashed fresh life into equities.

1.73p against 0.67p a morning of subdued

interim is 0.86p a morning.

A major re-shaping of the business was quickly

done, a loss-making placed by gains of a similar

has been completed, and as the afternoon pro-

ceeded a freefall set that following this latest

East Molesey. Some 1.5 million. Leading

sale is under way, after all, be cut

stock markets

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## Stock Exchange Prices

## Prices jump ahead

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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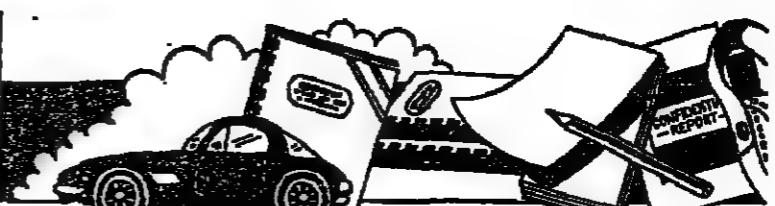






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Publishing company needs an experienced Secretary. Your shorthand ability is essential, but ability to type and accurate spelling are also important. You'll have to work hard (not necessarily long) and be able to cope with variety, being involved with both the editorial and business sides. Scope for taking on responsibility will be as great as you care to make it. Salary up to £3,000. Write to The Personnel Manager, 100 Holme Lane, Hollywell House, Worplesdon, Surrey GU2 7PP. Tel: 01-247 5400

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To assist a senior executive in the affairs of a professional institute. You will be expected to arrange meetings and functions at which you will be welcoming the delegates. This will be a high degree of involvement in personnel matters, plus other secretarial duties. Working in own office.

Contact Miss Barbara Speck (ref. 702001-01-636 3333).

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Starting as an Economic Assistant, you would earn between £2100 and £24500. Promotion to Senior Economic Assistant, which should take no longer than two to four years, would bring you into a range rising to £2575; and there are further prospects to £1465 and above. Inner London salaries quoted. These posts are pensionable and may be permanent or for a fixed period.

You must be under 27 and have, or obtain in 1977, a degree with first or second class honours or a post-graduate degree in economics or a closely related subject.

## Cadet Economists

You must be under 27 and have, or obtain in 1977, a degree with first or very good second class honours. The degree course need not have been in economics, but you must have a real interest and aptitude in that subject. As a Cadet, you will be paid £1960 pa (higher in London) and will be sponsored in a post-graduate course in economics (all fees paid). You will be appointed as an Economic Assistant on successfully completing the course. These posts are permanent and pensionable.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 7 February 1977) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. A/621.

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## GRADUATES

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#### University of Leicester

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